# Selwyn House Parents' Newsletter

*A Selwyn House School Publication* *June 2003*

# Selwyn House Parents' NEWSLETTER

*Selwyn House Parents' Newsletter* is published on line by the Advancement Office, and is compiled in print form once a year.

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ON THE COVER
Four of the many prize winners at the Prizegiving ceremonies for the graduates of 2003, left to right: Corey Zalcman, Richard Kwee, Michael Woloszyk and Jaryd Zummer.

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# *Remembering a young gentleman*

By William Mitchell, Headmaster

*Our school year ended in tremendous shock and grief when we learned on June 6 of the tragic accidental death of Aditya Pathak, a Grade 9 student in his third year at Selwyn House.*

*Consequently, my message is that, in remembering Addy, we reflect on what his too-short life taught us and that we take a moment to count our blessings and to value our family and friends.*

*Following are my words delivered at Addy's funeral. We intend to further honour Addy's memory at our opening assembly in September.*

Addy Pathak

On behalf of the entire Selwyn House community, I want to express our deepest sadness for the untimely and tragic circumstances that bring us together.

Even in a world that's not perfect, this is an unnatural order of how the universe should unfold.

Our expression of sympathy and of condolences to Addy's family is boundless.

In sharing memories of Addy with some of his teachers, his friends and his friends' parents, I've gotten to know Addy better than I had.

My respect for him grew with each conversation.

As an excellent student, he was admired by both his teachers and classmates for his work ethic and intelligence.

As a talented athlete, he was valued as a selfless teammate and for his determination.

As a citizen of our community, Addy was the epitome of what we expect from a fully engaged and positive contributor to school life.

Everyone speaks of his delightful and playful sense of humour and, at times, of his mischievous sense of fun.

Parents of Addy's friends who welcomed him into their homes, speak of how much they enjoyed his polite, easy and considerate interaction with their families and of how much they enjoyed having him in their homes.

But, it's of Addy as a friend that I heard some of the nicest things. His teacher, Carol Manning, said that she observed Addy as what she termed an undemanding friend. What a lovely way to express an important aspect of friendship!

When I mentioned this to his friend Brian Hodhod, he said: "That's it; that's Addy."

He would always reach out ro friends and had a remarkable ability to cheer you up or help you put things in perspective.

With admiration and with thanks for the contributions he made to our lives, I conclude by assuring you that you can only imagine how much we will miss but not forget this young gentleman at Selwyn House.

# *Electronic* Newsletter *continues next year*

The magazine you hold in your hands includes news from most of the 2002-2003 school year at Selwyn House. Much of this material has already appeared in the on-line *Parents' Newsletter* on the SHS Web site (www.selwyn.ca).

Next year, all news will be initially posted in the on-line *Newsletter*. Again next June, a print issue of *The Parents' Newsletter* will be distributed that will include a compilation of the year's events for those who may have missed seeing them on the Web.

With the innovation of putting our news on line, students and parents can get SHS news while it is still current, and can also access older articles in the *Newsletter* archive. Current and archived articles will be password protected for parents and students to view and/or print. Instructions for accessing the electronic version of the *Newsletter* will again be circulated through the student mailbag.

We hope parents enjoy accessing school news as it happens.

# *Prizegiving mixes milestones, mourning*

By Richard Wills, Publications Editor

The 2003 Prizegiving was a mixture of celebration and grief. The June 19 ceremony was dedicated to the memory of Selwyn House Grade 9 student Addy Pathak, whose sudden and tragic accidental death on June 6 had shocked and saddened the School community.

Turning to the topic of construction, a matter that has permeated the school year, Headmaster William Mitchell thanked faculty, students and parents for their understanding and cooperation in making a success of "Safety First," which had been a primary concern throughout the year. He continued by appealing for the same degree of cooperation next year, when we will have to learn how to live in new surroundings and adapt to the implementation of block scheduling, the ACCESS programme and laptops in the Middle School.

"While much of our focus throughout the year may have been on our building project, we never lost sight of doing all we can to deliver the very best, relevant, challenging and comprehensive programmes. [illegible]

The Headmaster also took the opportunity to praise the contribution of Michael Goldbloom, [illegible] Chairman of the Selwyn House Board of Directors.

"Michael has given absolutely [illegible] Chairman during the last six years," Mr. Mitchell said. "None of our initiatives, none of our planning for the future, none of our short-term or long-term decisions, large or small, for the improvement of this school would have their clarity, or their base of sound judgment or their success without the continuing commitment of Michael Goldbloom. He has helped bring the functioning of the school to a higher level. It is an enviable legacy and we're eternally grateful."

The Headmaster then aimed his message directly to the fifty graduates of the Class of 2003. "I believe that your experience at Selwyn House has helped each of you become an autonomous learner," he said. "That, I believe, is a gift for life and it will serve you, your family and your community well in the future. If you exercise it in a thoughtful, responsible and compassionate way, it has a great capacity for doing good.

"In saying this I don't want anyone to be misled. We don't believe that we as teachers have all the answers. We know we work with talented students who for the most part welcome the challenge we offer. But, to get their total engagement, we need the help, support and encouragement of their parents. It's that dynamic that makes the engagement work – that creates that spark of understanding or that sigh of satisfaction we all experience when we know we have done a difficult job well, honestly and responsibly.

"For that, we thank you and your parents. Congratulations. We wish you continued good fortune as you apply your Selwyn House experience to your future endeavours."

[illegible] Corey Zalcman began his valedictory address by praising the Selwyn House faculty. "The way that [illegible] has forever embedded a deeper understanding of the world, one which now leaves Selwyn [illegible]," he said. "The passion that the staff has passed on to us has been absorbed into our permanent thinking and eternal values."

He also gave credit to his family for the role they have played in his education. "How we are nurtured is what we become," he said. "You have opened a world of opportunity for me and have shown me the merit of education and the importance of family."

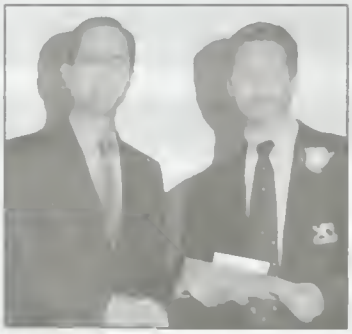
But, perhaps his most enthusiastic praise was reserved for his fellow classmates. "What I realized while reflecting on my grade recently is that I couldn't think of one student who didn't hold his moral convictions close to his heart," he said.

"I am definitely leaving Selwyn House with a broader look on life solely because of this year's Grade 11s. The key to your success is your individuality.

"Remember that Selwyn House has been crucial to the development of character in the man that you are today as you complete this once unimaginable rite of [illegible]

Corey Zalcman receives the Jeffrey Russel Prize from Michael Goldbloom.

Richard Kwee receives the Brainerd Award from Michael Goldbloom.



Michael Woloszyk receives the Governor General's Medal from Neil Matheson.

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http://www.archive.org/details/parentsnewsjune2003selw

# *Prizegiving*

Academic Awards
Grade 7: 1st, James Rossy; 2nd, Andrew Fitzpatrick; 3rd, Nathaniel Blumer
Grade 8: 1st, Robert Hinrichsen; 2nd, James Duffy; 3rd, Kyle Burrows
Grade 9: 1st, Stefan Luu; 2nd, Niki Thorpe; 3rd, Chris Wong
Grade 10: 1st, Bryce Durafourt; 2nd, William Martin; 3rd, Shawn Errunza

Distinction Awards
Chemistry and McGill Science Award – Scott McMurray
Physics – Michael Woloszyk
Biology – William Martin
Creative Writing – Matt Litvack
McCall Prize for Art – Geoff Dyck, Jared Tauben
Economics – Jamie Rudolph-Zbarsky
French – Langue Maternelle, Dylan Jones; Langue Enrichie, Richard Kwee; Langue Regulière, Sean Maislin
Geography – Sean Maislin, Arun Khanna
Christie History Prize – Dylan Jones, Michael Woloszyk
General Consulate of Spain Prize for Distinction in Spanish – Mani Alaei, Michael Lazar
Byron W. Harker Prize for Literature – Michael Woloszyk
Computer Science – Matthew Wathier
Moodey Prize for Mathematics -- Scott McMurray
Massi Prize for Effort – Miguel Burnier

Special Awards
Selwyn House Chronicle Cup – Neil Verma
Meighen Prize for Writing, Grade 8 – Robert Hinrichsen
Public Speaking Prize – Sean Bernstein
E.C. Moodey Prize for Distinction in Debating – Sean Bernstein, Daniel Budd
Patricia Marsh Drama Prize – Matt Litvack, Adam Cieply
E.G. Brine Award – Luca Melnychuk, Ryan Quinn
Jock Barclay Memorial Trophy – Samer Balaghi
Philip Quaid Memorial Prize – Stefan Luu
Ernst Brandl Memorial Trophy – Niki Thorpe
Robert A. Speirs Memorial Award – Bryce Durafourt
Grade 10 Award – William Martin
University of Toronto National Book Award – Michael Woloszyk
Thomas Henry Pentland Molson Prize – Scott McMurray
Governor General's Bronze Medal – Michael Woloszyk
YMCA Community Service Award – Miguel Burnier
Millennium Prize (donated by the Class of 1999) – Richard Kwee
Thomas Chalmers Brainerd Memorial Award – Richard Kwee
Jeffrey Russel Prize – Corey Zalcman
Lucas Memorial Medal – Jaryd Zummer

Back row, from left: William Martin, Bryce Durafourt, Shawn Errunza, Nicholas Thorpe. Second row: Neil Verma, Luca Melnychuk, Ryan Quinn, Stefan Luu, Samer Balaghi, Kyle Burrows, Robert Hinrichsen (back), Michael Woloszyk and Scott McMurray. Third row: Matt Litvack, Miguel Burnier, Jaryd Zummer, Adam Cieply, Jared Tauben, Richard Kwee and Daniel Budd. Front row: Matthew Wathier, Jamie Rudolph-Zbarsky, Corey Zalcman, Dylan Jones, Sean Bernstein and Geoff Dyck.

# *Senior Honour Roll – March 2003*

*High Honours

**Grade 9**
*Mani Alaei
Jordan Altman
Sung Jun Bae
Aaron Besner
Andrew Bloomfield
Gareth Brown
Paul Chamandy-Cook
James Coulton
Jason Coviensky
David Di Miele
Aaron Esterson
Alexander Hayne
Bronson Kiu
*Stefan Luu
Charles Madon
Gabriel Maldoff
Brendan Munzar
Aditya Pathak
Max Rosenstein
Olivier Saleh
Nick Schouela
Matthew Shadley
Jonathan Shen
Philip Smith
*Niki Thorpe
Charles Vennat
Benjamin Wilner
*Christopher Yee Wong
Nan Xie

**Grade 10**
Ben Albright
Andrew April
Charles Ayas
Justin Bahlis
Jordan Benjamin
Michael Bowey
Alex Browman
Nicholas Cronin
Sean Duffy
*Bryce Durafourt
*Shawn Errunza
Max Graham
Christopher Karaplis
Thomas Kirk
*Michael Lazar
*William Martin
Ben Meadow
Ivan Neilson
Daniel Palardy
Valter Pinchiaroli
Lee Rovinescu
David Smucker
Justin Tan
Moses Tannenbaum
Paul Tsoukas
Alexis Youssef

**Grade 11**
Jeff Barkun
Sean Bernstein
Justin Bourke
*Adam Cieply
Matthew Firestone
Benjamin Fombonne
Joshua Goldsman
Zach Greenberg
Michael Grover
Arne Hantson
Dylan Jones
Arun Khanna
Richard Kwee
Antoine Leuzy
Matt Litvack
*Scott McMurray
Jonathan Munzar
Luka Pavlovic
Thomas Rigby
Jamie Rudolph-Zbarsky
Nicholas Tsoukas
*Matthew Wathier
*Michael Woloszyk
Alex Wybo
Corey Zalcman
Jaryd Zummer

# *Senior Honour Roll – June 2003*

*High Honours

**Grade 9**
*Mani Alaei
Jordan Altman
*Sung Jun Bae
Aaron Besner
Andrew Bloomfield
Gareth Brown
Paul Chamandy-Cook
Philip Clark
James Coulton
*Jason Coviensky
David Di Miele
Aaron Esterson
Alexander Hayne
Brian Hodhod
Bronson Kiu
*Stefan Luu
Gabriel Maldoff
Brendan Munzar
Aditya Pathak
Max Rosenstein
Olivier Saleh
Nick Schouela
Jonathan Shen
Philip Smith
Kyle Spiller
*Niki Thorpe
Charles Vennat
Ben Wilner
*Christopher Yee Wong
Nan Xie

**Grade 10**
Ben Albright
Andrew April
Charles Ayas
Justin Bahlis
Jordan Benjamin
Michael Bowey
Sean Brophy
Nicholas Cronin
Sean Duffy
*Bryce Durafourt
*Shawn Errunza
Max Graham
Christopher Karaplis
Thomas Kirk
Michael Lazar
*William Martin
Ben Meadow
*Ivan Neilson
Daniel Palardy
Valter Pinchiaroli
Joshua Rosenstein
Lee Rovinescu
Anshuman Saksena
Nicholas Shadeed
David Smucker
*Justin Tan
Moses Tannenbaum
Paul Tsoukas
Alexis Youssef

**Grade 11**
Jeff Barkun
Sean Bernstein
Justin Bourke
*Adam Cieply
Matthew Firestone
Benjamin Fombonne
Joshua Goldsman
Zach Greenberg
Arne Hantson
Dylan Jones
Arun Khanna
Richard Kwee
Antoine Leuzy
Matt Litvack
*Scott McMurray
Jonathan Munzar
Jamie Rudolph-Zbarsky
Matthew Wathier
*Michael Woloszyk
Corey Zalcman
Jaryd Zummer

# *Career Day: professionals as professors*

Mel Hoppenheim

Matthew O'Toole

This year's Career Day included some fascinating workshops by volunteers from various professions on April 15, followed by on-site tours the following day.

Participants included: Mel Hoppenheim (film equipment entrepreneur), Matthew O'Toole (President and CEO, The Hockey Company), Scott Bailey '96 (Production Coordinator, Whalley Abbey Media Holdings), Boris Brott (symphony director and conductor), André Shareck (Partner, Redbourne Properties), Andrea Wolff and Elizabeth Shapiro (architects), Duncan Dee (Vice president of Corporate Affairs, Air Canada), Bruce McNiven (corporate lawyer), Dr. Tasso Dionisopoulos (Chief of Plastic Surgery, Jewish General Hospital), Dr. Thomas J. Hudson (Director of the Montreal Genome Centre), Chief Warrant Officer Mario P. DelPinto CD (Royal Canadian Army Cadets), Captain Bernard Smith (Air Canada), Alan Case '66 (investment banker), Peter Edwards (President, Bombardier Business Aircraft), Prof. Margaret A. Somerville (McGill Centre for Medicine, Ethics and Law), Claudio F. Bussandri (McKesson Canada), Jonathan Blanshay CFA '84 (Managing Director, ReVision Eyewear), Peter Morton '66 (Partner, GBC Asset Management), and Louise Houle (Partner, Heenan Blaikie LLP).

Louise Houle

André Shareck

Captain Bernard Smith

Andrea Wolff and Elizabeth Shapiro

# *Senior Play* – Rhinoceros

Is an average person able to resist the compulsion to conform and be like everyone else? That is the central question posed by Eugène Ionesco in his 1959 play *Rhinoceros*. Ionesco was a major exponent of the Theatre of the Absurd, which grew out of Antonin Artaud's Theatre of Cruelty, a reaction to a world engulfed by war. This was a time when existentialism dominated intellectual circles, particularly in France, where Ionesco lived. Many of his plays, notably *The Chairs* and *The Bald Soprano*, are touchstones of the Absurdist Movement. The movement expressed its disaffection with humanity by deeming life an illogical predicament caused by social forces.

When *Rhinoceros* was first produced in Paris in 1960, Jean Louis Barrault directed the play and took the role of Berenger. Several months later, a London production directed by Orson Welles starred Lawrence Olivier as Berenger. The following year, the play was produced on Broadway starring Eli Wallach as Berenger and Zero Mostel as Jean.

The full cast. Members from Selwyn House are, back row, from left: Charles Ayas, Dylan Jones and Nick Tsoukas. Front row: Miguel Burnier, Charles Vennat, Matt Litvack, Ben Wilner Adam Cieply and Arun Khanna.

# Rhinoceros

Berenger: Matt Litvack
Jean: Adam Cieply
Daisy: Jessica Davis (The Study)
Dudard: Ben Wilner
The Waitress: Emese Tokes (The Study)
The Grocer's Wife: Stephanie Malouf (The Study)
The Housewife: Lisa Worsley (The Study)
The Grocer: Nick Tsoukas
The Old Gentleman: Arun Khanna
The Logician: Charles Vennat
The Café Proprietor: Miguel Burnier
Mr. Botard: Charles Ayas
Mr. Papillon: Dylan Jones
Mrs. Boeuf: Emese Tokes (The Study)
Fireman: Miguel Burnier
Direction: Alex Ivanovici
Set, Costumes, Props: Robert Leader
Lighting Design: James Richardson
Lighting Operator: Mohsin Aziz
Painters and Lighting Support Staff:
National Theatre School of Canada

# *Close, but no cigar, for Gryphon robot*

By Richard Wills, Publications Editor

"On paper, it was the best year we've ever had," says Selwyn House science teacher Tom Downey. "We just don't have a lot of hardware to show for it."

Mechanical problems kept the Selwyn House robotics team out of the top spots in the final rounds at the CRC Robotics Competition at Collège Laval in February.

In the competition, entitled "Hyperbol," robots designed and built by high school and CEGEP students competed against one another in a three-dimensional bowling game. Working in teams of two, the remote-controlled robots had to pick up foam balls placed on the playing court and fire them at their opponents' Hyperbol pins to knock them over, meanwhile blocking the balls being fired by the two opposing robots.

The competition includes much more than the actual game. Each school team was also required to produce a video, a Web page, and a print journal of their project, and set up a kiosk at the competition. Each of these projects is judged as well, and the resulting points determine a school's final standing.

The Selwyn House robot did not do well in the Hyperbol game itself. However, the SHS team took fourth place for their journal, fifth for their video, sixth for their Web page and ninth among the kiosks. The Gryphons also won second-place honours for sportsmanship, based on the votes of all the students taking part in the competition.

Motor failure on Friday night forced the Selwyn House team to rebuild the entire electrical system. They were able to repair the robot, but couldn't regain the momentum they had going into the event.

As a strategic design element, the SHS robot included a storage bin large enough to scoop up all the balls on the court and hoard them. "There were only a few robots in the competition that could hold more than two or three balls at a time," explains Mr. Downey.

The Selwyn House team continued to make design changes right up until the day of competition. When mechanical problems set them back, the team kept tenaciously working on the robot, even after they had been eliminated from the upper levels of competition. "The kids were amazing," Mr. Downey says.

The way the elimination rounds are organized, one mistake can cost a school several places in the final standings. "The difference between last place and the middle of the pack is very small," Mr. Downey points out.

For the first seven years of its robotics programme, Selwyn House competed under the aegis of an organization called Canada First. Two years ago, Selwyn House science teachers Brad Moffat, Tom Downey and Mike Downey, along with André Barrette of Collège Laval, established CRC Robotics in affiliation with the Educational Alliance for Science and Technology, which organizes science fairs in Quebec.

Scott McMurray tests the drive motors.

"We felt we could offer a better educational experience, at a low cost and open to everyone," explains Mike Downey. "Our goal is to become a national competition."

CRC Robotics is growing fast. "Last year we had only seven teams. This year we had eighteen. The competition tripled with no publicity. We're aiming at thirty-six teams next year."

After the CRC Robotics competition, the Selwyn House robot was booked for a tour, of sorts. Approximately one thousand spectators watched the Selwyn House team take part in a robotics demonstration at the ISCI Centre at the Old Port on March 2. On March 9 the robot was a featured attraction at the Montreal Bell Science Fair at Pierrefonds

*Continued on page 11*

# *Tan wins at Canada-Wide Science Fair*

By Dean Phillips, Science Teacher and Richard Wills, Publications Editor

Gold Medal performances at both the regional and provincial science fairs recently earned Justin Tan 10B a berth at the Canada Wide Science Fair in Calgary during the week of May 10-18.

Once again, Justin did himself and Selwyn House School proud in meriting the following recognition: a silver medal in life sciences; a Canadian Society for Medical Laboratory Science Award; a Genome Canada Award; a Petro-Canada Peer Innovation Award and an entrance scholarship to the University of Western Ontario.

Justin's win is the culmination of a year-long research project that began last summer during a trip to Japan. There Justin found a sponsor eager to support his research on various methods of preserving oocytes (eggs) for assisted reproduction in cattle and humans.

Working at the Royal Victoria Hospital labs, Justin conducted experiments on some 1,500 eggs to find a fast-freezing method that would not damage the eggs.

"Because oocytes are highly sensitive to chilling, cryopreservation techniques are not well developed in most species," Justin explains. "An alternative method that has been used involves vitrification with high concentrations of cryoprotectants, which upon rapid cooling imparts a glasslike state. This project is to test the feasibility of using vitrification as a reliable method to freeze human oocytes.

"The cryoprotectant replaces water in the cell so ice crystals never form and the cell never dies," he says.

Justin says the best part of his experience at the Canada-Wide Science Fair was meeting and exchanging ideas with fellow scientists. "It was more of a gathering than a competition," he says.

# *Gryphon robot*

*Continued from page 10*

Comprehensive High School. The robot's last performance was before a home audience when it showed its mettle to Selwyn House Elementary students.

Members of the 2003 Selwyn House Robotics team are: Mani Alaei 9B, Sung Jun Bae 9C, Mike Bowey 10B, Sean Brophy 10B, Nick Cazelais 9C, James Coulton 9C, Nick Cronin 10B, Sean Duffy 10A, Bryce Durafourt 10C, Geoff Dyck 11B, Shawn Errunza 10C, Max Graham 10C, Harry Gurberg 9A, Lawrence Lin 11C, Scott McMurray 11A, Jon Munzar 11B, Ahmad Odeh 9A, Tom Paterson 10B, Ton-Jin Quan 10A, Josh Rosenstein 10A, Louis Saleh 11C, Jon Shen 9C, Kyle Spiller 9B, Vladimir Stepanov 10A, Nuno Tang 11A, Jared Tauben 11C, Mike Woloszyk 11A, Chris Wong 10B and Richard Wong 9B.

# *Bernstein finishes ninth at Worlds*

By Richard Wills, Publications Editor

Selwyn House Grade 11 student Sean Bernstein came ninth overall at the World Individual Public Speaking and Debating Championship, held at Queen Anne's School in Reading, England between March 26 and April 1.

Sean began a successful year in public speaking by taking first-place honours at the Quebec Student Debating Association public speaking competition November 19 at Loyola High School, competing in three events: Impromptu Speaking, Interpretive Reading, and Persuasive Speaking.

In the Impromptu Speaking event, competitors must prepare a speech on a subject revealed to them only two minutes beforehand. Sean's assigned topic was, "It's a lot harder to push someone up a ladder if he's not willing to climb it by himself."

Sean Bernstein 11C with his medal from the Worlds.

For the Reading event, Sean chose excerpts from *Lies My Father Told Me* by Ted Allen.

In the Persuasive Speaking category, Sean delivered an eight-minute speech on the subject of how women are advancing socially and academically with respect to men.

Sean says he really wanted to do well in this event. "It was really nerve-wracking knowing this could have been my last time speaking for Selwyn House," he recalls.

He needn't have worried. After his win at Loyola, Sean went on to place third overall at the National Individual Public Speaking and Debating Championship, held at St John's Ravenscourt School in Winnipeg between January 31 and February 4.

In this event, speakers competed in four categories. In Persuasive Speaking, Sean won third place for his speech on the subject of accountability. He took eighth place overall in Debating, arguing topics ranging from aggressive American foreign policy, to the influence of capitalist views on moral values, to video games. Sean took seventh overall in Interpretive Reading of a story by Mordecai Richler. He placed fifteenth overall in Impromptu Speaking. Topics ranged from "Curiosity" to "Silence is deadly."

"The competition was the toughest I've ever faced," Sean says. "These were some of the best in the world, not just in Canada."

"The outcome," he says, "was pleasing and surprising." His Winnipeg win qualified him to go to the Worlds, held from March 26 to April 1. The Worlds competition was originally scheduled to be held in Cyprus, but was moved to Reading, England for security reasons.

Once again, participants competed in four categories. In Persuasive Speaking, Sean took third place. He also competed in Debating, Interpretive Reading and Impromptu Speaking.

Sean's total point standing earned him ninth-place honours overall.

The approximately fifty competitors who took part in the Worlds were drawn from English-language schools in the following countries: Canada, the U.S., Israel, Pakistan, Germany, Lithuania, the United Kingdom and Cyprus. Sean says his fellow participants were an elite group of students. "They earned their ranking as the best in the world," he says.

Mr. Bernstein's coach, Selwyn House English teacher Kathi Biggs, agrees. "Every one of the contestants was amazing," she says. She says it is "a huge accomplishment" for any student to place among the finalists in such an event.

This is not the first time a Selwyn House student has represented Canada at the Worlds. In 1996, Gandhar Chakravarty competed in Cyprus. In 2000, Selwyn House graduate Theo McLauchlin, who was attending Marianopolis but was still coached by Kathi Biggs, took first place in the Worlds competition in South Africa. In 2001, Selwyn House Grade 11 students Daniel Wilner and Luke Reid became the first two contestants from the same school to go to the Worlds, where the two placed second and fourth overall.

# *Bloomfield places second at QAIS*

By Richard Wills, Publications Editor

Andrew Bloomfield 9A took second place in the Grade 9 Quebec Association of Independent Schools' public speaking competition February 18. "In this event, Andrew was competing among seventeen of the QAIS schools' best," says Senior English Department Head and public speaking coach Kathi Biggs.

Andrew's speech was based on the following quotation from Edith Wharton: "If only we'd stop trying to be happy, we'd have a pretty good time."

"In a world where happiness is the ultimate goal and where we strive for happiness in every aspect of our lives, it becomes so difficult to draw the line between true happiness and the want of happiness, that we forget what the reality is," Andrew said in his winning speech. "Our world has become so complicated, we must strive for happiness in the way the media has portrayed happiness, in beauty, wealth, success and possessions."

Andrew Bloomfield

Andrew cited an article in the January 29th issue of *Time* magazine, entitled "If Everyone Were on Prozac."

"The question that the article raises," Andrew said, "is that if there seem to be no adverse side effects of these drugs, then why shouldn't we all be taking them?

"Other people's ideas of happiness, trying too hard to let everyone influence what happiness is, be it classmates, movies, media, trends, should not be the gauge of happiness. You must be an individualist; others cannot make you happy. By not trying to be happy you can find that you are happy," Andrew said.

# *Matt Litvack wins SHS public speaking*

By Richard Wills, Publications Editor

Matt Litvack 11B won the Selwyn House Senior public speaking competition on February 17. Like all his competitors, Matt's speech was based on a quotation from Mordecai Richler. The quotation Matt chose reads as follows:

"While I continue to struggle to earn a living in my declining years, churning out weekly columns for a pittance, teenage pop-thingee Britney Spears, threatening to write a first novel, with a little help from her mummy, has pre-sold her scribble for a 500,000-pounds-sterling publisher's advance in the U.K., and a reported cool million U.S. from Random House in New York. To be fair, my only protruding curve is my belly, and for all I know we are on the verge of witnessing the debut of a second Jane Austen."

Matt's speech decried the state of today's pop music scene, and the way in which stars with little talent are packaged and spoon-fed to uncritical masses of young people. "The little puppets that front the new music…are certainly not worthy of the accolades they receive," Matt said.

"Real creativity," Matt continued, "is labour; it requires time, effort and dedication to an art. It is not simply handed over because you might look good. It is a lifetime of commitment, of purpose and of very often low wages. The kid-stars of today are multi-million-dollar sensations whose creations are put together like cornflake commercials. There is no creative struggle, no suffering, no reaching for the heavens to produce a universal message that has meaning; instead we are seduced by nymphets who try to titillate us with brainless pop musical concoctions."

Matt Litvack

## *Commonwealth Essay winners*

In this year's Montreal chapter of The Commonwealth Essay Competition, in Class B (14-15 years), Moses Tannenbaum 10C placed first, William Martin 10A was Highly Commended and Shawn Errunza 10C was commended. In Class C (12-13 years), Jonathan Mechanic 8B placed first and Jonas Briedis 8C and Gavin Kenneally 8A were both Highly Commended.

# *Stalwart students trek through Italy, France*

By Carol Manning, Middle School Director

Our group and our guide in the medieval town of St. Paul de Vence.

Jamie Rudolph-Zbarsky, Anthony Tang and Ms. Manning enjoying a gondola ride.

On March 15, 2003, two days before U.S. President Bush's declared "deadline" in Iraq, a band of intrepid Selwyn House students and staff members left Dorval on an inter-disciplinary trip to Italy and France. Although we were not concerned for our safety, the imminent threat of war in Iraq cast a pall over our departure. As we flew over the snowy Alps, crossed northern Italy, and landed at Marco Polo airport, the excitement of travel lifted our spirits. The trip, meticulously planned by Mme Nancy Allard-Coutu, took life as motorboats sped us to Venice, and our journey began.

The first leg of the journey included Venice, Padua and Florence. In each city, we were awed by the magnificent architecture and the skylines that featured the juxtaposition of classical, Byzantine, Romanesque, Gothic and Baroque churches and buildings. The treasures of the Uffizi Museum and Michelangelo's David were a high point in Florence.

The second part of the trip took us to Siena, and a brilliantly hot, sunny day enabled us to envision the Palio, the horse race that takes place in the main square each summer. From Siena we traveled to an inn in the Tuscan hills for some rest and recreation, including bicycling through the hills to the remains of a twelfth-century castle.

The last few days of the voyage brought us to the Côte d'Azur. Whether strolling on the Promenade des Anglais in Nice, admiring the art galleries large and small in St. Paul de Vence, observing the marine life in the Jacques Cousteau Oceanographic Museum, or enjoying the olfactory delights of a perfumery in Eze, we were spellbound by the rugged beauty of the region, yet able to savor its delights.

Throughout the trip, the media and many peace demonstrations kept us mindful of just how fortunate we were to be enjoying such a trip in such times, and we returned home with a sense of what we had gained, and what the world had to lose.

# *Middle School students 'Open the Box'*

By Carol Manning, Middle School Director

Excitement reigned as three successive "Open the Box" events were held on June 10, June 12 and June 17 for students entering the Middle School in September 2003. These events, part of the ACCESS programme for the integration of technology at Selwyn House, launched the laptop portion of the programme. This programme will enable students to use technology to enhance their learning across the curriculum. The laptops will not replace other learning tools, but they will add new alternatives, opportunities and enrichment for students and staff alike.

Chris Santillo and Kevin Auerbach try out their new laptops.

Each student was issued an IBM Thinkpad laptop, a lock and a backpack in which to transport it. The computers are fully loaded with all the software that the students will be using next year, including First Class, our new e-mail and communication software. This model is lighter than those currently used at the school, and it comes with a long-life battery rated for nine hours.

Before the students could claim their laptops, they were introduced to the Responsible Use Agreement, a document that sets out rules and responsibilities for the students. Essentially, any decisions on proper use of their laptop must be guided by three questions: Is it legal? Is it appropriate? Will it compromise my computer and/or my home or school network?

The students were run through procedures on the care and maintenance of their laptops as well as the rudiments of First Class, and then they were off and running—running programs, setting up backgrounds and personalizing their desktops.

The Middle School staff is primed and ready to take advantage of the tool we now have at our disposal. We will keep you posted!

# *Middle School Science Fair*

Seventy-eight projects were entered in this year's Middle School Science Fair, which was held on January 16, 2003. Many of the entries demonstrated a high level of imagination and understanding, as well as a great deal of hard work.

The entries were judged by parent volunteers and senior students, with the following exhibits earning medals:

**Grade 8 Gold**

Jonas Briedis "Bacterial Resistance: Nemesis of Modern Medicine"; Vincent-Charles Hodder "In Depth with the Temperature of our Lakes"; Charles-Edouard Bonaldo-Corning & Robert Hintrichsen "The Fundamentals of Wave Harmonics"; Mark Sadaka "Give Me Five"

**Grade 7 Gold**

Paul Nobel "Testing the Rotor Blade of Windmills"; Matthew Palardy "Kyoto's Most Wanted: Renewable Resources"; Julian Beh Pold & Koen Blot "The Big Green: The Greenhouse Effect"; Patrick Levy & Frédéric-André

*Continued on page 16*

Ryan Quinn 7A (left) and partner Max Koenekoop 7C (right) enlist the help of Thomas David 7A as a test subject in their experiment to find out "Why Does my Hearing Decrease When I Remove my Glasses?" Their project won a silver medal.

# *Grade 6 students explore Ottawa*

By Grade 6 teachers Laurie McMurdo and Christine Gervais

May was an exciting month in Grade 6, as it included the annual trip to Ottawa, which was a wonderful closure to the year.

The trip commenced with a visit to the Museum of Civilization in Hull, where the boys reflected on the history of Canada. That was followed by a rally through the streets of Ottawa in search of monuments and historical sites. The day concluded with a dip in the pool at Ottawa University.

Day two was memorable for all, as it involved a bike tour of Rockcliffe Park, where we viewed many different embassies. The highlight of the trip was a special visit and lunch at 24 Sussex Drive, the Prime Minister's Residence. The boys were fortunate enough to be able meet the Prime Minister and Mme. Chrétien.

The adventure continued well into the evening with a swim at a wave pool and a candy auction. No one slept well after this long day. Was it the sugar or was it the excitement?

Our last day in Ottawa began with many sleepyheads trudging off to the National Art Gallery and shopping at the Rideau Centre.

This was a fantastic, fun-filled adventure for all involved. We returned to Montreal with many smiles and memories.

On a walking tour of the nation's capital, the Grade 6 classes pause for a photo in the Byward Market area.

Grade 6 students pose for an official photograph with Prime Minster Jean Chrétien and Mme. Chrétien.

# *Middle School Science Fair*

*Continued from page 15*

Vennat "Wood Under Pressure: When Does it Crack?"

**Grade 8 Silver**

Wynnyn Chan & Rohan Rakheja "Can Jack's Beanstalk Grow any Bigger?"; Jason Latsky "Water World"; Robert Abelson "Fluorinated Speed Enhancers: Getting There Faster"; Samer Balaghi "Subliminal Perception"

**Grade 7 Silver**

Christopher Au & Andrew Fitzpatrick "Now you Sea it, Now you Don't"; David Farmer & Jonathan MacDougall "Sound Advice"; Matthew Vesnaver "The Rate of a Chemical Reaction"; Max Koenekoop & Ryan Quinn "Why Does my Hearing Decrease When I Remove my Glasses?"

**Grade 8 Bronze**

Stephen Tsoukas "Crystals: Civilization's Greatest Asset"; Philip Cabana & Andrew Funamoto "Is it Par for the Course?"; Paul Park & Anthony Tang "Maglev: Future of Transportation"; Daniel Blanshay " The Fire Down Below."

**Grade 7 Bronze**

Zachary Rosenthal "Bad Hair Day"; Nathaniel Blumer "I Scream, You Scream, We All Scream...."; James Bloomfield & William MacCulloch "Red, Blue: Can Dogs See Them, Too?"; Dylan Brophy & Geoffrey Grover "Sticky or Stuck?"

# *Middle School Honour Roll – November 2002*

*High Honours, **Bold–Perfect Effort**

7A
James Bloomfield
Thomas David
William MacCulloch
Marc Minogue
Paul Nobel
Ryan Quinn
James Rossy
Frédéric-André Vennat
Neil Verma
Alexander Vit
Christopher Au

7B
Koen Blot
Matthew Kendrick
Gerald Kounadis
**Luca Melnychuk**
Ramin Mohsenin
Andrew Pancer
Andrej Pavlovic
David Rappaport
Frédéric Saleh
Marley Sniatowsky
Matthew Vesnaver

7C
Nathaniel Blumer
Alec Brillon
Dylan Brophy
David Chen
Andrew Fitzpatrick
Geoffrey Grover
Justin Hagen
Max Koenekoop
Olivier Laroche
Matthew Palardy
Zachary Rosenthal

8A
**Samer Balaghi**
***James Duffy**
Alan Ho
Vincent-Charles Hodder
***Daniel Janusauskas**
Gavin Kenneally
Moo Yup Kim
*Brian Lin
Anthony Tang
**Philip-Hector Tsoukas**
Andrew Zakhari

8B
***Nicholas Cabana**
Wynnyn Chan
Nicolas Congram
Andrew Funamoto
Enoch Ho
Jason Leopold
Ryan MacLean
Jon Mechanic
**Thang Nguyen**
Mark Sadaka
***Lawrence Said**
Dino Zammit

8C
Robert Abelson
Charles-Edouard Bonaldo-Corning
Jonas Briedis
*Kyle Burrows
**Philip Cabana**
Christopher DesRosiers
*Robert Hinrichsen
Jason Latsky
Rohan Rakheja
Stephen Tsoukas
Bryan Wong

# *Middle School Honour Roll – March 2003*

*High Honours, **Bold–Perfect Effort**

7A
Bryan Altman
James Bloomfield
Thomas David
William MacCulloch
Marc Minogue
Paul Nobel
Ryan Quinn
James Rossy
Frédéric-A.Vennat
Neil Verma

7B
Christopher Au
Koen Blot
Matthew Kendrick
Patrick Levy
Luca Melnychuk
Ramin Mohsenin
**Andrew Pancer**
Andrej Pavolovic
**David Rappaport**
Frédéric Saleh
Marley Sniatowsky
Matthew Vesnaver

7C
Alec Brillon
***Nathaniel Blumer**
Dylan Brophy
Kamran Chaudhury
David Chen
David Farmer
**Andrew Fitzpatrick**
Geoffrey Grover
Justin Hagen
Will Harris
Max Koenekoop
Olivier Laroche
Jonathan MacDougall
Matthew Palardy
Zachary Rosenthal
David Ta Kim
Fraser Usher-Jones

8A
Stefano Bizzotto
**Samer Balaghi**
Christopher Codina-Lucia
James Duffy
Alan Ho
Vincent-Charles Hodder
Daniel Janusauskas
Gavin Kenneally
**Moo Yup Kim**
**Brian Lin**
Thomas Nation
Anthony Tang
Philip-Hector Tsoukas
Kristian Valenta
Andrew Zakhari

8B
Nicholas Cabana
*Wynnyn Chan
Nicolas Congram
Andrew Funamoto
Enoch Ho
Jason Leopold
Ryan MacLean
Rehman Manji
Jonathan Mechanic
***Thang Nguyen**
*Mark Sadaka
***Lawrence Said**
Bryan Wong
Dino Zammit

8C
***Robert Abelson**
Charles-Edouard Bonaldo-Corning
Jonas Briedis
*Kyle Burrows
Philip Cabana
Christopher DesRosiers
***Robert Hinrichsen**
Jason Latsky
***Rohan Rakheja**
Stephen Tsoukas
Nicholas Wybo

# *Middle School Honour Roll – June 2003*

*High Honours, **Bold–Perfect Effort**

7A
Bryan Altman
James Bloomfield
Thomas David
Jean-Nicolas Groulx
Jens Hantson
**William MacCulloch**
Marc Minogue
Paul Nobel
Ryan Quinn
**James Rossy**
Frédéric-André Vennat
Neil Verma

7B
**Christopher Au**
Koen Blot
Matthew Kendrick
Gerald Kounadis
Patrick Levy
**Luca Melnychuk**
Ramin Mohsenin
**Andrew Pancer**
Andrej Pavlovic
David Rappaport
Frédéric Saleh
Matthew Vesnaver

7C
**Nathaniel Blumer**
Alex Brillon
Dylan Brophy
David Chen
**David Farmer**
Andrew Fitzpatrick
Geoffrey Grover
Justin Hagen
**Max Koenekoop**
Olivier Laroche
Jonathan MacDougall
Matthew Palardy
Zachary Rosenthal
**David Ta Kim**
Fraser Usher-Jones

8A
***Samer Balaghi**
***James Duffy**
Neil Desai
Alan Ho
Vincent-Charles Hodder
***Daniel Janusauskas**
**Gavin Kenneally**
Moo Yup Kim
***Brian Lin**
Thomas Nation
**Anthony Tang**
**Philip-Hector Tsoukas**
Kristian Valenta
Andrew Zakhari

8B
**Nicholas Cabana**
Wynnyn Chan
Nicolas Congram
Andrew Funamoto
Enoch Ho
Jason Leopold
Ryan MacLean
Jonathan Mechanic
Thang Nguyen
***Mark Sadaka**
***Lawrence Said**
Dino Zammit

8C
**Robert Abelson**
Charles-Edouard Bonaldo-Corning
Jonas Briedis
***Kyle Burrows**
Philip Cabana
Christopher DesRosiers
***Robert Hinrichsen**
**Jason Latsky**
***Rohan Rakheja**
Stephen Tsoukas
Bryan Wong
Nicholas Wybo

PERFECT EFFORT
Rehman Manji
Marley Sniatowsky

PERFECT ATTENDANCE
Rehman Manji
Jonathan Mechanic
Thang Nguyen

# *Middle School presents* Julius Caesar

With no fear of the Ides of March, the Middle School Veritas Players presented Julius Caesar on March 12 and 13. At left, Caesar (Andrew Funamoto 8B) speaks with Antony (Will Harris 7C). Above, Caesar's assassins, from left: Kyle Burrows 8C, Jonathan Mechanic 8B, Wynnyn Chan 8B, James Bloomfield 7A, Samer Sallman 8C and Zachary Rosenthal 7C.

# Grade Awards October 2002

| | | A | B |
|---|---|---|---|
| K | • Influence positive dans la classe<br>• Progrès remarquables en français<br>• Curiosité intellectuelle | Vadim De Vreeze<br>Francis Ellis<br>Alex Chenier | Jonathan Mirarchi<br>Liam Nicol<br>Jamie Denham |
| Gr. 1 | • Influence positive dans la classe<br>• Progrès remarquables en français<br>• Curiosité intellectuelle | George Loutochin<br>Jeremy O'Brand<br>Vincent Cacciatore | Tommy Jablonski<br>Tor Stein-Andersen<br>Bradley Wiseman |
| Gr. 2 | • Influence positive dans la classe<br>• Progrès remarquables en français<br>• Curiosité intellectuelle | Antoine van Duong<br>Tristan Zeman<br>Matthew Goldbloom | Kevin Ward<br>Dev Sumbly<br>Nicholas Chabanne-Salbaing |
| Gr. 3 | • Positive attitude and commitment to learning<br>• Responsible attitude towards himself and others | Sean Hess<br>Eloi K'ai Bernier-Chen<br>Jacob Cohen<br>Brandon Di Perno<br>Sean Hatzigeorgiou<br>Brandon Caron | Jake Levy<br>Jonathan Kwok<br>Cairn Tse-Lalonde<br>Christopher Malour<br>Fayez Elian<br>Eric Liu |
| Gr. 4 | • Positive attitude and commitment to learning<br>• Responsible attitude towards himself and others | Victor Bui<br>Michael Smith<br>Simon Altman<br>Christian Buchanan<br>Michael Haichin<br>Derek Li | Adam Ribkoff<br>Antoine Limoges<br>Brendan Keefe<br>Robin Morgan<br>Ali Shahabi<br>Eirik Stein-Andersen |
| Gr. 5 | •Esprit de coopération<br>•Efforts remarquables en français<br>•Attitude positive face à l'apprentissage | Maximilian Cherney<br>Joshua Hanek<br>Marco Melnychuk<br>Tuyen Ta<br>Elliot Burrows<br>Nicolas Konow | Bjørn Dawson<br>Sebastian Krolik<br>Blake Diemer<br>Josh Koenekoop<br>Evan Hallward<br>Anton Schlemm<br>Charles Chan |
| Gr. 6 | •Responsible attitude toward himself and others<br>•Efforts remarquables en français<br>•Responsible attitude and commitment to learning | Marc Heron<br>Robert Carle<br>Justin Leopold<br>Philip Vineberg<br>Louis Gervais<br>Graham Hooton<br>Alessandro Galeone | Stephen Albers<br>Trevor Hooton<br>Thomas Nichols<br>Mark Haichin<br>Derek Burrows<br>Jack MacCulloch<br>Kevin Auerbach<br>Francis DiStasio |

# Grade Awards December 2002

| | | A | B |
|---|---|---|---|
| K | • Influence positive dans la classe<br>• Progrès remarquables en français<br>• Curiosité intellectuelle | Antoine Guay<br>Gregory Ward<br>Jacques Vincent | Thomas Leblanc<br>Henry Jones<br>Vincent Van Duong |
| Gr. 1 | • Influence positive dans la classe<br>• Progrès remarquables en français<br>• Curiosité intellectuelle | Garrett O'Toole<br>Wyler Diome-Montour<br>Nazar Khan | Tommy Jablonski<br>Qifan Wang<br>Nicholas Varvarigos |
| Gr. 2 | • Influence positive dans la classe<br>• Progrès remarquables en français<br>• Curiosité intellectuelle | Edouard Charlebois<br>Noah Daoust<br>Andrew Lowther | Dan Ton-That<br>Julien Bohbot<br>Philippe Brock |
| Gr. 3 | • Positive attitude and commitment to learning<br>• Responsible attitude toward himself and others | Fernand Le Fevre<br>Erik Samuel<br>Alexander Krolik<br>Joey Zammit<br>Zander Brais | Joey Cheaib<br>Thomas Savvas<br>Joey Wan<br>Samuel Hodhod<br>Alexandre Pfünd |

*Continued on page 20*

# *Grade Awards December 2002, continued*

*Continued from page 19*

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Gr. 4 | • Positive attitude and commitment to learning | Eric Joseph Del Balso<br>Gordon Nguyen<br>Tien Nguyen | Malcolm Pinnell<br>Hari Iyer<br>Jonathan Levitt |
| | • Responsible attitude toward himself and others | Marc Ordonselli<br>Christopher Sarlos<br>Jack Provencher | Maxim Laroche<br>Raymond Furtado<br>Andrew Matte |
| Gr. 5 | •Esprit de coopération | William Pridham-Leroux | Karim Kaidbey<br>Jamie Koenekoop |
| | •Efforts remarquables en français | Christophe Rainville<br>Stewart Wiseman | Myles Lann<br>Shawn Levy |
| | •Attitude positive face à l'apprentissage | Michael Abramson<br>Paul Mansour-Geoffrion | James Menzies<br>Frankie Grassi |
| Gr. 6 | •Responsible attitude toward himself and others | Evren Boisjoli<br>Nicolas Vendeville<br>Philippe Garneau-Halliday | Geoffrey Matheson<br>James Shannon<br>Marc Haichin |
| | •Efforts remarquables en français | Graham Hooton<br>William Fletcher | Thomas Nichols |
| | •Responsible attitude and commitment to learning | Kevin Paul<br>Gordon Paterson<br>Chris Santillo | Daniel Kost-Stephenson<br>Derek Burrows<br>Marc-André Fernandes |

# *Grade Awards March 2003*

| | | A | B |
|---|---|---|---|
| K | •Influence positive dans la classe<br>•Progrès remarquables en français<br>•Curiosité intellectuelle | Gregory Ward<br>Scott Dennis<br>Nikita Nonnenman | Becket Osterland<br>Kevin Seyr<br>Bhavish Beejan |
| Gr. 1 | •Influence positive dans la classe<br>•Progrès remarquables en français<br>•Curiosité intellectuelle | Jeremy Herman<br>Liam Bassett<br>Charles-Eric Richer-Lafleche | Tor Stein-Andersen<br>Michael Sarlos<br>Christopher Trouvé |
| Gr. 2 | •Influence positive dans la classe<br>•Progrès remarquables en français<br>•Curiosité intellectuelle | Leonardo Lamanuzzi<br>Valery Peker<br>Jean-Christophe Azzopardi | David Smith<br>Eric-James Boffey<br>Spencer Wuest |
| Gr. 3 | •Positive attitude and commitment to learning | Alexandr Magder<br>Maximilien Garneau-Pillet<br>Sean Hess | Dominic Carbone<br>Matthew Della Valle<br>Nuvnish Beejan |
| | •Responsible attitude towards himself and others | Angelo Rizzolo<br>Alexandre Ferland<br>Brandon Di Perno | Alexandre Pfünd<br>Julian Lo |
| Gr. 4 | •Positive attitude and commitment to learning | Philippe-Olivier Vennat<br>Nikki Papich | Nicholas Backman<br>Nicholas Mathé<br>Ali Shahabi |
| | •Responsible attitude towards himself and others | Patrick Mayer<br>Anthony Salvo<br>Anthony Matte | Salvatore Vaccarino<br>Alexander Mashaal<br>Lawrence Day |
| Gr. 5 | •Esprit de coopération | Marco Melnychuk<br>Michael Abramson<br>Paul Mansour-Geoffrion | Evan Hallward<br>John Lamont<br>Robbie Fitzpatrick |
| | •Efforts remarquables en français | John Esposito<br>Frédéric Langelier | Blake Diemer |
| | •Attitude positive face à l'apprentissage | Gaspard Charlebois<br>Andrew Dennis<br>Minh Nguyen | Mikhael Melnikoff<br>Alexander Shadeed<br>Yasin Cissé |

*Continued on page 21*

# Grade Awards March 2003, *continued*

*Continued from page 20*

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Gr. 6 | •Responsible attitude toward himself and others | Evren Boisjoli<br>Nicolas Vendeville<br>Philippe Garneau-Halliday<br>Kevin Paul<br>Gordon Paterson | Daniel Kost-Stephenson<br>Francis DiStasio<br>Thomas Nichols<br>Derek Burrows |
| | •Efforts remarquables en français | Philippe Garneau-Halliday<br>Louis Gervais<br>Evren Boisjoli<br>Stephen Mashaal | Stephen Albers<br>Matthew Holy |
| | •Responsible attitude and commitment to learning | William Fletcher<br>Graham Hooton<br>Tristano Tenaglia<br>Chris Santillo | Kevin Auerbach<br>Trevor Hooton<br>Geoffrey Matheson<br>James Shannon, Denis Smirnov, Lucas Vanelli |

# Grade Awards June 2003

| | | A | B |
|---|---|---|---|
| K | •Influence positive dans la classe | Yanni Metrakos | Benjamin Carroll |
| | •Progrès remarquables en français | Vadim DeVreeze | Drew Guerriero |
| | •Curiosité intellectuelle | Arnold Ho | Hadrien Espiard |
| Gr. 1 | •Influence positive dans la classe | Matthew Lupovich | Owen Yu |
| | •Progrès remarquables en français | William Shannon | Qifan Wang |
| | •Curiosité intellectuelle | Alexandre Lasry | Jason Miller |
| Gr. 2 | •Influence positive dans la classe | Raphaël Ribkoff | Luke Vincent |
| | •Progrès remarquables en français | Liam Shannon | Nicky Andrei |
| | •Curiosité intellectuelle | Raphael Brassard | Nico Vit |
| Gr. 3 | •Positive attitude and commitment to learning | Angelo Rizzolo | Griffin Diemer |
| | | Zander Brais | Alex Ignacz, Esteban Obando |
| | •Responsible attitude towards himself and others | Christopher Matte | Corey Loiselle |
| | | Alexander Krolik | Jake Levy |
| | | Erik Samuel | |
| Gr. 4 | •Positive attitude and commitment to learning | Christian Buchanan | Ali Shahabi |
| | | Victor Bui | Nicholas Backman |
| | | Marc Ordonselli | Eirik Stein-Andersen |
| | •Responsible attitude towards himself and others | Matthew Jablonski | Nazeer Khan |
| | | Eric Joseph Del Balso | Antoine Limoges |
| | | Gordon Nguyen | Jonathan Levitt |
| Gr. 5 | oEsprit de coopération | Joshua Hanek | Charles Chan |
| | | | Sebastien Krolik |
| | •Efforts remarquables en français | Frédéric Pfuünd | Alex Shadeed |
| | | | Karim Kaidbey |
| | •Attitude positive face à l'apprentissage | Nicolas Konow | Max Cronin |
| | | Marco Melnychuk | Nicholas Bradley |
| | | Tuyen Ta | James Menzies |
| Gr. 6 | •Responsible attitude toward himself and others | Noah Barer | Marc-André Fernandes |
| | | Bryan Gorski | Matthew Holy |
| | | Stephen Mashaal | Jack MacCulloch |
| | | Gregory Rossy | |
| | | Tristano Tenaglia | |
| | •Efforts remarquables en français | William Fletcher | Francis DiStasio |
| | | Kevin Paul | Trevor Hooton |
| | | Nicolas Vendeville | |
| | •Responsible attitude and commitment to learning | William Fletcher | Ryan Brun |
| | | Sasha Papich | Christopher Day |
| | | Tyler Schlemm | Anthony Lowther |
| | | Gregory Sheppard | Jeffrey Lo |
| | | Philip Vineberg | |

# *Grade 6 Graduation*

The Grade 6 students of 2003 celebrated their graduation from Elementary School before a packed auditorium on June 11.

In their graduation speech, Ryan Brun and Gregory Sheppard thanked all their teachers for helping them in their journey through Elementary School. The two young men punctuated their message by quoting a great American president and a famous comic book character.

The following is an excerpt from their speech:

"Seven years ago, our understanding of the journey ahead was as simple as the trip from our house to our classrooms," Gregory began. "Only now can we fully grasp the true significance of our odyssey. We would never have believed that Selwyn House would become our Selwyn Home.

"If asked to identify one consistent Selwyn theme present throughout the years at Selwyn House, my response would be 'The Quest for Knowledge.'

"Knowledge is behind everything, from math to language, from music to sports!"

"The journey to Grade 6 was the time of our lives," said Ryan. "In Grade 6, my years at Selwyn House as a child are coming to an end, but now comes a new beginning, Middle School.

"Knowledge provides the driving force that enables us to overcome tough challenges and realize our potential as our transition into adolescence begins," concluded Gregory. "Selwyn House has taught us that when faced with many challenges brought forth by this graduating class on our road to discovering our potential, we persevere.

"We all leave Elementary School with a sense of empowerment, empowerment through knowledge. But as Spiderman's wise uncle once said, 'With great power, comes great responsibility.' Never will this be more relevant than on our next journey.

"In conclusion I quote James Madison: 'The quest for knowledge is what empowers our soul and allows our dreams to take flight.'"

Evren Boisjoli receives the Alain Weber Prize from teacher Evi Pachis.

Justin Leopold accepts the Alain Weber Prize from teacher Jean Pruneau.

Philippe Garneau-Halliday accepts the Award for Merit from teacher Christine Gervais.

Ryan Brun and Gregory Sheppard at the podium.

Thomas Nichols receives the Award for Merit from teacher Laurie McMurdo.

# *Kindergarten Graduation*

Jamie Denham KB and Henry Jones KB watch a slide show of the highlights of their year in Kindergarten.

Antoine Guay KA takes the microphone to tell the audience what he loved about his year in Kindergarten.

Joshua Daoust KA sports one of the handmade ties the Kindergarten boys made for the occasion.

There were smiles from ear to ear on June 11, as thirty-one young students marked the completion of their first year at Selwyn House with a special Kindergarten graduation ceremony held before an audience of proud parents and teachers in the Lucas gym.

One by one, each boy took the microphone to tell what pleased him most about his time at school, and each student was presented with a unique diploma describing the quality or characteristic his teachers felt best described his personality or contribution to the class.

Becket Osterland KB accepts congratulations from incoming Elementary School Director Kathy Funamoto.

Scott Dennis KA shakes the hand of Headmaster William Mitchell after receiving his diploma for graduating from Kindergarten.

As outgoing Elementary School Director Gérald Fallon looks on, Kathy Funamoto congratulates Hadrien Espiard KB.

# *Elementary Track and Field Day*

Clockwise from top left: Jean-Louis Chen 4A, Alexander Mashaal 4B, Nicholas Mathé 4B, Antoine Limoges 4B, and Adam Ribkoff 4B blast off the starting line. Charles-Alexandre Lacoste-Lépine 2A, Andrew Lowther 2A, Luke Vincent 2B, Anthony Chow 2B and Kevin Ward 2B display their ribbons. Raphaël Ribkoff 2A raises his hands for a victory slap after scoring a strike in bowling. Daniel Wen KB and Michai Zlatopolsky KA dash for the finish line. Sean Hess 3A is way out in front as he crosses the finish line. Andrew Dennis 5A sails over the bar in the high jump with room to spare. Nazeer Khan 4B negotiates the obstacle course.

# *Math Olympians win medals*

By Julie Heath, Grade 4 teacher

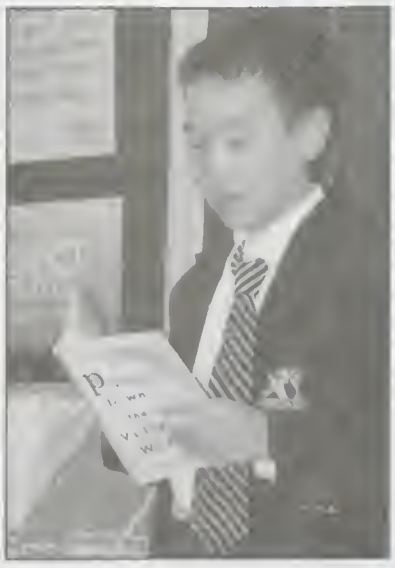
Math Olympiad is a new programme that provides opportunities for students to be engaged in creative problem-solving activities that develop their ability to reason, to be logical, resourceful and intellectually stimulated about mathematics. Throughout the winter months, top Grade 5 and Grade 6 math students participated in this exciting Co-op activity. Each month, the boys wrote an exam with five questions—the same exam taken worldwide by over 95,000 other students. Two of our boys, Trevor and Graham Hooton, received gold pins for scoring 22 out of a possible 25, a feat that put them in the top two per cent of competing students. Derek Burrows and Alessandro Galeone received silver pins, putting them in the top ten per cent. It was a great year, and we look forward to running the program again next year in Co-op!

From left: Alessandro Galeone (score of 18 out of 25), Trevor and Graham Hooton (each with a score of 22/25), and Derek Burrows (20/25)

# *Scenes from SHS Fair 2003*

Philip Vineberg impersonates a worker during the Great Depression of the 1930s.

Henry Jones KB, a budding chemist, conducts an experiment for visiting parents.



Gordon Nguyen 4A reads a selection of poetry to parents visiting the Selwyn House Fair.

# *Les élèves de la cinquième année à Québec*

Par Björn Dawson et Alexander Shadeed 5B

Des élèves de 5A et 5B jouent le rôle de soldats anglais sous la direction du Général Wolfe.

**Parc de la Rive Chaudière et l'observatoire de Québec**

Notre première activitée a été la visite au magnifique Parc de la Rivière Chaudière. Nous avons regardé les chutes d'eau. Il y avait un pont qui traversait la rivière et qui offrait une belle vue des chutes. Enfin, nous avons trouvé les chutes de la Chaudière très belles. L'eau tombe avec tant de vitesse qu'elle rebondit et flotte dans l'air! Bjorn, monsieur Simard et moi nous sommes arrêtés pour le lunch. Quand nous étions assis, nous avons pris juste une seconde pour regarder les magnifiques chutes. Après ça, nous avons marché vers l'autobus et nous avons dit au revoir à ce magnifique site.

La dernière visite du premier jour a été celle de l'Observatoire de la capitale. Par la fenêtre nous pouvions voir toute la ville de Québec. D'un côté, il y avait le fleuve, de l'autre, le Château Frontenac. Au Nord, nous pouvions voir la Place-Royale. Après ça, nous sommes allés chez A&W pour souper et après nous nous sommes baignés dans la piscine.

**Place-Royale**

Nous avons commencé notre voyage sur la Place-Royale. Nous avons eu un tour guidé. Nous avons vu de vieilles maisons de style français. Elles étaient très différentes des maisons qu'on voit à Montréal. Notre Dame des Victoires était magnifique! Le guide nous a dit qu'il y avait de l'or sur les murs. L'orgue a plus de cent tubes. Chaque dimanche, quelqu'un vient jouer. L'église Notre Dame des Victoires a été construite sur les fondations de la première maison de Champlain. Nous avons aussi vu un film sur la fondation de Québec. Le film a expliqué où était la première maison de Champlain. L'expérience a été remarquable.

**Le Musée de la Civilisation**

Après le petit déjeuner, nous sommes allés au Musée de la Civilisation. Les quatre chambres que nous avons visitées avaient toutes une différente thématique et des ateliers amusants. En premier, nous avons commencé avec un jeu sur la culture amérindienne. L'expérience explique comment les Amérindiens ont vécu. Il y avait des vrais objets amérindiens. Il y avait des vidéos qui expliquaient comment les Inuits ont construit les igloos et les canots. Nous avons appris beaucoup de choses sur les Amérindiens. Après ça, nous avons vu une exposition sur les chiens. L'exposition expliquait pourquoi les chiens sont importants pour les humains. Savais-tu que les chiens font partie des animaux les plus intelligents de la planète? Les chiens sont aussi des descendants des loups.

**Le Louis-Joliet**

Quand nous sommes montés sur le bateau Louis-Joliet, nous ne savions pas ce qui nous attendait. En premier, nous avons mangé notre lunch. Nous avons bien aimé ce moment parce que cela nous a donné le temps d'admirer la beauté de Québec. Nous avons vu la belle chute Montmorency et le grand Château Frontenac. Kathleen, une des officiers sur le Louis-Joliet, a pris 10 personnes à la fois pour leur montrer le bateau. Nous avons eu beaucoup de plaisir sur le bateau mais c'était vite terminé.

**La bataille sur les Plaines d'Abraham**

Après la croisière sur le Louis-Joliet, nous avons marché vers les Plaines d'Abraham. Le Capitaine Wolfe et le Capitaine Montcalm ont discuté des stratégies de guerre. Après, nous sommes allés sur les Plaines et on a décidé de revivre la plus importante bataille de l'histoire du Québec: la guerre des Anglais contre les Français. Après 30 minutes de pratique, nous avons fait la guerre. Nous avons présenté nos techniques au professeur. Les deux équipes étaient très bonnes mais à la fin, comme dans la vraie guerre, les Anglais ont gagné. Nous pensons que la guerre était la meilleure activité faite à Québec. Nous avons appris beaucoup sur les stratégies et nous aimerions revivre l'expérience.

**Promenades sur la Terrasse Dufferin et Rue du Trésor**

Après un déjeuner délicieux, on a passé le début de notre troisième journée au Château Frontenac. Le Château

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# *Selwyn House Film Festival draws rave reviews*

By Richard Wills, Publications Editor

It wasn't exactly Cannes or Sundance, but there was a lot of cinematic excitement in the air on the evening of January 15, 2003 for the first Selwyn House Film Festival.

Four movies, written, directed, filmed and edited entirely by SHS Elementary School students, were screened for an appreciative audience. The films were: *A Voice from the Past* by Jesse Kaufman, Philip Vineberg and Stephen Mashaal; *The Question* by Louis Gervais, Graham Hooton and Trevor Hooton; *The Jar* by Anthony Lowther; and *The Overcoat* by Myles Lann.

**The filmmakers, from left: Graham Hooton, Anthony Lowther, Jesse Montana Kaufman, Stephen Mashaal, Philip Vineberg, Trevor Hooton, Louis Gervais, and Myles Lann.**

The idea for the film festival grew out of a chance meeting between Elementary School Director Gérald Fallon and SHS parent Jimmy Kaufman, who has twenty-five years' experience in the film industry. "Mr Kaufman's purpose was to provide an opportunity to all participants to clearly understand the organizational, creative and business aspects of motion picture production," Mr. Fallon explains. "Each participant was involved in a learning process integrating writing skills, multimedia technology, drama, music and visual art."

The students began working on their films in February 2002, using the Selwyn House digital video camera. They took part in a series of workshops on everything from scriptwriting to casting, scouting locations, costumes, props, rehearsal, camera movement, editing and scoring. They learned how to schedule the entire production in order to meet the project deadline.

On opening night, Mr. Kaufman said he was "deeply humbled by the experience" of assisting these budding filmmakers with their projects. "I can't say enough about the kids who made these films, and the parents, families and friends who worked alongside them," Mr. Kaufman told the audience.

To enhance the movie-going experience for the audience, a popcorn maker was brought in for the screening in the Lucas gym.

A second film festival is already under way, with seven films in the first stages of production. This time, students from ECS and The Study are also taking part. Shooting of the second batch of movies is scheduled to start in early April, with a screening at the end of May. For the second series of movies, student film editors from Concordia University will be available to advise each team.

# *Cinquième année à Québec*

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Frontenac est un hôtel qui date de 1903. Nous avons fait une promenade au bord du Château et marché sur la Terrasse Dufferin. La terrasse est une passerelle en bois qui est juste à coté du Château. Ensuite, c'était le temps de magasiner. Au moins 75% des étudiants ont acheté au moins une peinture. Les peintures étaient très populaires et pas chères. Il y avait une grande rue avec des centaines de peintures. C'était comme si nous étions dans un monde de couleurs. Il y avait beaucoup de magasins de souvenirs. Nous pensons qu'ils ont fait cela parce que beaucoup de touristes viennent à Québec. Tout le monde a appris beaucoup de choses. Malheureusement pour revenir, nous avons dû prendre un autobus parce qu'il y avait un problème avec le train. Le voyage à Québec était déjà fini!

# *La musique bat son plein à Selwyn House*

Par Marie Forté, professeur de musique

Le 20 décembre dernier, les garçons de la maternelle à la quatrième année ont eu le plaisir de partager avec leur famille et leurs amis quelques-unes des chansons et des pièces instrumentales qu'ils ont apprises dans le cadre du cours de musique.

M. Andrew Sarlos et Mme Nathalie Michaud ont débuté ce concert par une pièce instrumentale: Minuit Chrétiens (Holy Night), interprétée à la flûte à bec et à la guitare.

Les garçons maternelles ont ensuite interprété *Le père Noël est enrhumé,* sur l'air de *Bonhomme bonhomme sais-tu jouer*? et la chanson traditionnelle *Santa Claus is Coming to Town.*

Les enfants de première ont chanté : *La ronde du vent* et une chanson traditionnelle de Hannukah: *I Have a Little Dreydl.*

Les élèves de deuxième ont démontré leur talent au xylophone dans la chanson: *Je te donne pour Noël.* Les solistes Charles Laplante et Jean-Christophe Azzopardi nous ont enchantés de leurs jolies voix dans la chanson *Mary's Little Boy Child.*

Les garçons de troisième ont joué de la flûte à bec et du xylophone dans la chanson : *Good News*; Sean Hatzigeorgiou et Jonathan Kwok, qui se sont joints au groupe de musique plus, se sont illustrés par leur solo de flûte à bec dans la chanson: *Petit garçon.* Finalement, ce groupe assez spécial nous a servi une chanson de Noël bien originale: *Time to Pack the Sleigh,* chanson qui combinait de la musique rap, rock-and-roll, et dans laquelle ils nous ont démontré toute l'imagination dont ils font preuve quotidiennement, en utilisant leur flûte à bec d'une façon bien innovatrice. Ce fut un des moments les plus enlevants de ce joyeux concert.

Les élèves de quatrième année ont fait preuve d'une grande justesse vocale lorsqu'ils ont interprété: *Huron Carol,* accompagnés par M. McMillan à la grosse caisse et Victor Bui et Tien Nguyen aux xylophones. *Trois grands rois,* une chanson traditionnelle du 13ième siècle était accompagnée par Mme Nathalie Michaud à la flûte à bec. La pièce *Entre le bœuf et l'âne gris,* nous a donné une bonne idée de l'excellence que ce groupe peut atteindre lorsqu'il joue divers instruments.

Le groupe de musique plus nous a interprété *Adeste Fideles* à la flûte à bec et aux xylophones.

Pour clôturer ce concert, musique plus a accompagné l'audience qui a chanté *Mon beau sapin, Oh, Christmas Tree.*

Les enfants font preuve d'un intérêt et d'un enthousiasme merveilleux à tous les niveaux.

Thomas Savvas 3B et Alexandre Ferland 3A

Ben Carroll KB et Hadrien Espiard KB

# *Joan Miró, vous connaissez?*

Par Claudine Martel, professeur 1B

Vous voulez connaître la vie et l'œuvre de ce peintre? Venez faire un petit saut en première année afin de consulter nos élèves experts en la matière.

Est-ce un homme ou une femme?

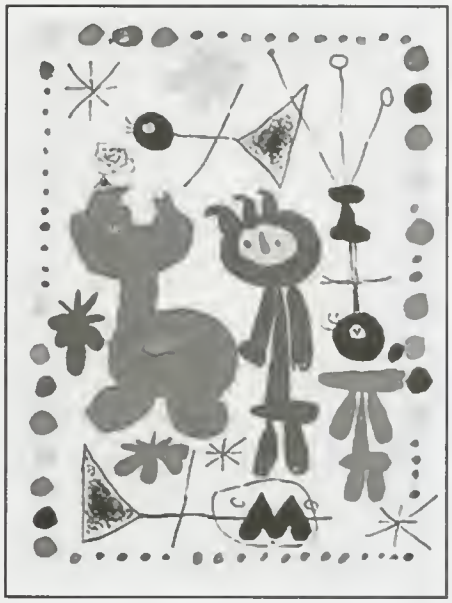
Quel est son pays d'origine?

Est-il encore vivant?

Comment travaillait-il dans son atelier?

Comment s'y prenait-il pour commencer, travailler et terminer ses toiles?

Voilà quelques questions que les élèves nous ont posées. Ensemble, nous avons cherché les réponses dans des livres, des courts mérrages sur sa vie et des sites Internet. À chaque jour, nous augmentions nos connaissances et par le fait même notre fascination pour cet artiste. Les enfanrs se sont mis à reproduire, lors de leur temps libres, des toiles de Miró. Ils se précipitaient sur les livres de référence et nous, les adultes, prenions un malin plaisir à les écouter commenter le résultat de son rravail. Nous avions transformé ces garçons de 6 et 7 ans en 34 critiques artistiques.



À gauche, *Personnage et oiseau* par Joan Miró. À droite, Tor Stein-Andersen 1B réalise sa proper interpretation.

Suite à une recherche exhaustive, nous nous sommes lancés dans un projet où chaque enfant avait à choisir et à reproduire une toile à l'aide de différents médiums. La reproduction est une technique intéressante, mais la création de nos propres toiles inspirait davantage les enfants.

Munis de leurs pinceaux, leur gouache, de connaissance de la technique de Miró et de leur imagination, ils ont créé leur propre toile. Les résultats furent époustouflants et tous voulaient inviter les parents afin de leur présenter le travail accompli. Après plusieurs heures de montage à l'aide du logiciel « Powerpoint », nous étions fin prêts à les accueillir er nous avons admiré leurs travaux sur grand écran.

L'impacr de ce projet sur les enfants avait dépassé nos espérances. Les enfants s'étaient complètement immergés dans le monde de l'art et avaient développé un intérêt pour la peinture. Comme enseignanres, nous étions ravies et comblées!

Commentaires de parents suite à la présentation faite en classe:

"Excellenre idée! Le thème a éré approché de façon très vivante. Merci pour cet enrichissement," dit Mme Kateri Da Silva.

"Nous aimons la grande participarion des enfants. Tous les garçons sont vraiment des arrisres," dir Mme Sheila Jablonski.

"We were so impressed and moved by the quality of the work and how much effort you all put into it," said Kelly and Brian Baxter.

"Superbe présentarion! Notre garçon était très excité et il a même reconnu un oeuvre de Miró au musée la semaine dernière," dit M. Marie Tremblay-McNiven.

*Projet réalisé dans les classes de Mme Frigon et Mme Martel*

La Lampe magique par Yan-Maurice McNiven.

# *La dictée P.G.L.*
# *Le français au service de la générosité*

Par Sonya Jean, professeur de français élémentaire

Depuis plusieurs années déjà, les élèves de l'école Selwyn House participent à la dictée P.G.L. afin de venir en aide aux enfants d'Afrique et d'Haïti. Cette année encore, les classes de deuxième année, cinquième année et sixième année ont participé d'une manière très active à cet événement de coopération internationale.

En collaboration avec la fondation Paul Gérin-Lajoie, les élèves ont pu réaliser différentes activités pédagogiques sous le thème de l'écriture. Ils ont ainsi pu prendre conscience des bienfaits qu'apporte le « savoir écrire » dans la vie de chacun. De plus, grâce à la Cueillette du partage, les participants ont pu ramasser de l'argent afin d'offrir aux élèves d'Afrique et d'Haïti la chance de découvrir les avantages du savoir lire, écrire et compter, mais surtout la chance d'acquérir ces savoirs et de pouvoir les mettre en pratique. C'est ainsi que, grâce à la générosité des élèves de Selwyn House et à celle de leurs parents, nous avons pu faire parvenir un chèque de 1548.82$ à la Fondation Paul Gérin-Lajoie. Cet argent sera utilisé aussi bien pour l'achat de matériel scolaire que pour la construction d'écoles.

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Thomas Nichols 6B reçoit son prix des mains de Madame Sonya Jean.

# King Midas and the Palace of Gold

By Gregory Sheppard 6A (King Midas)

Ask anyone who was in the Elementary School play this year the question, "Who was the driving force behind the play?" and the answer would inevitably be, "Miss Heath." In fact, this year's wonderful production of *King Midas and the Palace of Gold* would have never come into being without her.

The play this year came together beautifully, with actors and the director all understanding one another. One of my fondest memories must be the last week of production. The crunch was on to learn our lines, and there was increasing tension on the stage. Props and costumes were brought in, and we had to learn how to use them. The first two days in the gym rolled on at a turtle's pace, and our hearts and our acting skills were put to the test.

Finally, it was show time! Every problem we had during the rehearsals was instantly gone, and everything worked seamlessly. Now, when I look back at the tape of our production, I can see for myself what a great play it was. As my mother said, "The acting, costumes and scenery just get better each year!"

Again, I must congratulate the actors for their wonderful job, and extend a special thanks to our fantastic director (drum roll, please!), the one who brought it all together, the amazing Miss Heath!

To his horror, King Midas' touch turns his daughter to gold. Midas is played by Gregory Sheppard, the daughter by Ryan Brun 6B.

# *Two chess teams place second in hot competition*

By George Levtchouk, Elementary School chess instructor

Six four-man teams of Selwyn House Elementary School chess players made an impressive showing at an interscholastic chess tournament held over the weekend of February 22-23 in the parish hall of St. Jean Berchmans Church in Rosemount.

On Saturday, February 22, in the Grade-3-and-under section, our three teams showed remarkable depth, with one team finishing second and the other two tying for fourth in a twenty-nine-team field. Among the many fine showings, I would like to underline the perfect 5-0 score of Alexander Ignacz 3B on the first board of the team that finished second.

On Sunday, February 23, Selwyn House did well again, placing a team second in a very competitive forty-nine-team field. Once again, the performance of our first board led the way, with Charles Chan 5B scoring four wins and a draw against some of the best young chess players in the province. Bravo!

**Selwyn House Elementary chess masters, left to right: Jonathan Kwok, Jacob Cohen, Zander Brais, Eric Liu, Fayez Elian (above), Jake Levy, Erik Samuel, Chris Malouf, Alex Pfünd, and Alex Ignacz**

In closing, I would like to thank the parents who brought their sons out, particularly in the extremely bad weather on Sunday. They helped make the weekend a success.

The following players represented Selwyn House at the tournament:

Of the players from Grade 3 and under, Alexander Ignacz 3B, Christopher Malouf 3B, Erik Samuel 3A and Jacob Cohen 3A made up the team that finished second. The two teams that tied for fourth were comprised of Sammy Hodhod 3B, Jake Levy 3B, Fayez Elian 3B, Eric Liu 3B, Alex Pfünd 3B, Jonathan Kwok 3B, Zander Brais 3A and David Smith 2B.

Among the players from Grade 6 and under, the team that finished second was made up of Charles Chan 5B, Michael Abramson 5A, Graham Hooton 6A and Trevor Hooton 6B. The team that finished thirteenth included Derek Burrows 6B, Minh Nguyen 5A, Marc Ordonselli 4A and Elliot Burrows 5A. Members of the team that finished nineteenth were Shawn Levy 5B, Paul Mansour-Geoffrion 5A, Chris Day 6B and Lucas Vanelli 6B.

# *La dictée P.G.L.*

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L'événement comporte aussi un volet « compétition » au cours duquel les élèves de cinquième et sixième années peuvent participer à la finale locale de la dictée P.G.L. Lors de cette finale, Thomas Nichols, élève de sixième année a été choisi pour représenter Selwyn House lors de la grande finale régionale qui se tenait à l'Université du Québec à Montréal le 21 mars dernier. Thomas a raconté avoir beaucoup aimé son expérience à la finale régionale.

De grands remerciements doivent être distribués aux enseignants suivants pour leur support et leur implication : Martin Rondeau, Nathalie Gervais, Evi Pachis, Sonya Jean et Jean Pruneau, à tous les élèves qui ont participé et recueilli l'argent de la dictée commanditée ainsi qu'aux parents qui ont soutenu et encouragé leur fils dans cette aventure du partage. Félicitations à Thomas Nichols pour sa participation à la finale régionale de la dictée P.G.L.

# *Dispatches from Creative Writing Week*

Articles and photos by Grade 6 Reporters

*During Creative Writing Week in March, a group of Grade 6 boys were assigned the task of reporting on the event for* The Parents' Newsletter. *With only a few minutes of instructions from me, these roving reporters were sent out in teams. One member of each team was told to observe a workshop, take notes and write a brief article; the other was to act as photographer. When it was all done, they submitted their photos and write-ups, a selection of which appears below. They took to their assignment with enthusiasm, and, considering how little training or guidance they received, I believe the results were quite impressive.*

*– Richard Wills, Publications Editor*

François Gravel works his magic.

On March 11, 2003 something fascinating and exciting happened at Selwyn House School. A man named François Gravel, the proud author of many children's books, spoke about some of his novels. One of the books he talked about was *The Klonk*. He also performed magic tricks for the students and teachers. One of his tricks I found fascinating was how he guessed what was written on the pieces of paper the kids had written on and hidden in a bucket, folded.

On behalf of all the students, I thank him for his visit. I will gladly read one of his famous books called *The Match of Stars*. I will try to trick my family with a clever magic trick. I hope I will succeed!

*– By Gregory Rossy 6A*

On March 11, during Creative Writing Week, we had a visit from François Gravel. He wrote many books such as the series of *Klonk*. He visited many classes like Grade 2 and 3 in 5A. He was very interesting and never lost the audience's attention while he was talking. He was funny, and he explained to us that to write a story, you had to have a lot of imagination. During his visit he also performed a magic trick, which was quite amusing.

*By Philippe Halliday 6A*

Joanna Barette leads the story workshop.

On March 12 in the Wanstall Library, the Grade 6 students had the opportunity to meet Joanna Barette, an author. She spoke about components that make a good story, such as word usage, dialogue, characters, conflicts and plot. The students thought it would be a neat idea to try to write a story using her ideas and I bet it will be excellent!

*– By Thomas Nichols 6B*

Ms. Schemie explains the art of technological illustration.

On the Wednesday of our first-ever creative writing week at SHS, my reporting teammates and I went and saw a technology author by the name of Ms. Schemie. Ms. Schemie wasn't just any technology author. No way. She wrote, researched (photographed, if she could) and drew technology. As with Mr. Fallon, she drew absolutely fantastic drawings. The difference between Ms. Schemie and Mr. Fallon, however, was that Ms. Schemie drew non-fiction drawings, researched all sorts of stuff about the technology she was drawing, sent her drawings to a company that made the technology, asked them, "Is this right?" and, depending on the company's answer, continued the process. As she explained in the conference, Ms. Schemie worked on layout a lot. For her, nothing could be as much fun as drawing and writing about technology. So far, Ms. Schemie has written nine books about all sorts of different areas of technology (mostly architecture) and she is not planning on stopping yet!

*– By Stephen Albers 6B*

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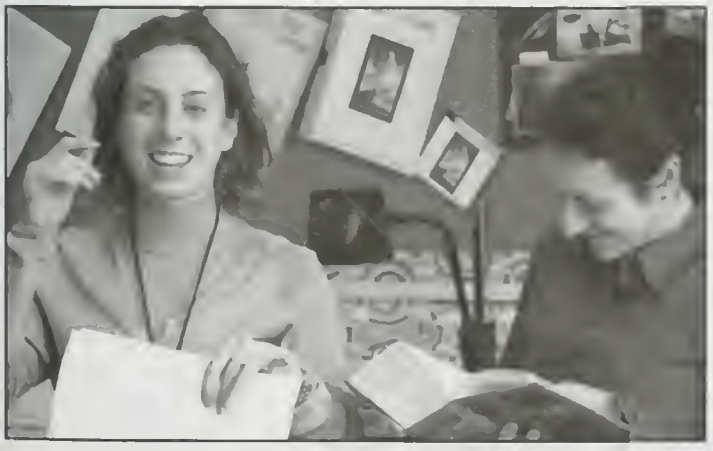
# Creative Writing Week

*Continued from page 32*

**Mr. Pruneau helps students learn how to write poetry.**

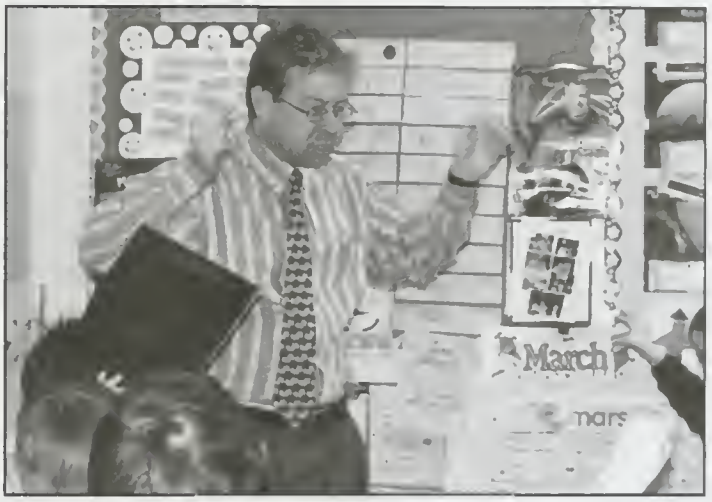
In the Co-op Room, Mr. Pruneau talked about how to write a poem. Mr. Pruneau explained to the kids how to write a poem so they can write a poem in the future without problems. One of the things Mr. Pruneau says you need to do in order to write a good poem is to have rhyming words and start with five syllables and end with seven syllables. Your words have to make sense in a poem. Some poems take a long time to write and some take a few minutes. To write poems you have to have motivation, passion and patience. It is good to be surrounded by things you are writing about. Writing poems can be a game. Some poems can be a rhyming poem or a small story. One of the kids that I interviewed said he was writing his poem on perseverance.

*By Tyler Schlemm 6A*



**Teachers Evi Pachis and Caroline Bolduc lead**

Miss Pachis and Mrs. Bolduc led the kids in a mental exercise where they dictated a word and, without using the dictionary, they had to find out what the word means. The first word was "callipyge," and the word means "behind." Miss Pachis and Mrs. Bolduc tried to get the kids to find a word and translate through the Greek language. The next thing Miss Pachis did was to get the kids to write a text without all the most-used letters in the alphabet. Afterward, Miss Pachis had the kids write a sentence based on two words.




**Mr. Pylat shows students how to put animation into their storytelling.**

*By Tyler Schlemm 6A*

Selwyn House has its own wonderful storyteller, Mr. Pylat. This workshop was the ultimate storytelling academy. The kids learnt how to give expression and excitement to their stories. Mr. Pylat also told stories of adventures and many other wonderful things. Mr. Pylat's stories were alive and bouncing. The kids definitely enjoyed acting out great stories with Selwyn House's own professional storyteller.

*– By Ryan Brun 6B*

In KA, Mr. Pylat led a workshop on storytelling. The group participated in acting out stories and fairy tales.

*– By Gregory Sheppard 6A, Jack MacCulloch 6B and Ryan Brun 6B*

# *Gridiron Gryphons: Bantams take title; Seniors take division*

By Richard Wills, Publications Editor

Bantams accepting the GMAA banner from Dr. Paul Bennett of LCC, from left: BenWilner 9A, Casey Auerbach 10B, Justin Kuzmicki 9C and Philip Cutler 9A.

SHS quarterback Beno Shell-Schnitzer eludes the Ste-Thérèse defence.

Congratulations to the Selwyn House Bantam Gryphons for winning the GMAA football championship banner for the first time in 10 years, in a hard-fought 14-12 win over Notre Dame on November 2. With this victory, the Gryphons claimed the honour that barely eluded their grasp last year—on the same field against the same team.

And congratulations to the Selwyn House Senior football squad for defeating St-Jean Vianney 35-7 in the Sport Scolaire semi-final on November 1. This win earned the Senior Gryphons top spot in the Western Division with a 6-0 record, and a shot at the championship against the winners of the Eastern Division.

In the final, under cold, icy conditions at McGill's Molson Stadium on November 7, Selwyn House went up against an older, bigger Polyvalente Ste-Thérèse team. With an injured quarterback, the Senior team was overpowered by Ste-Thérèse 35-0, which ended Selwyn House's bid for a football sweep this year.

However, all but six of the Senior squad will be returning next year for another go at the title.

# *SHS wins GMAA Midget basketball title*

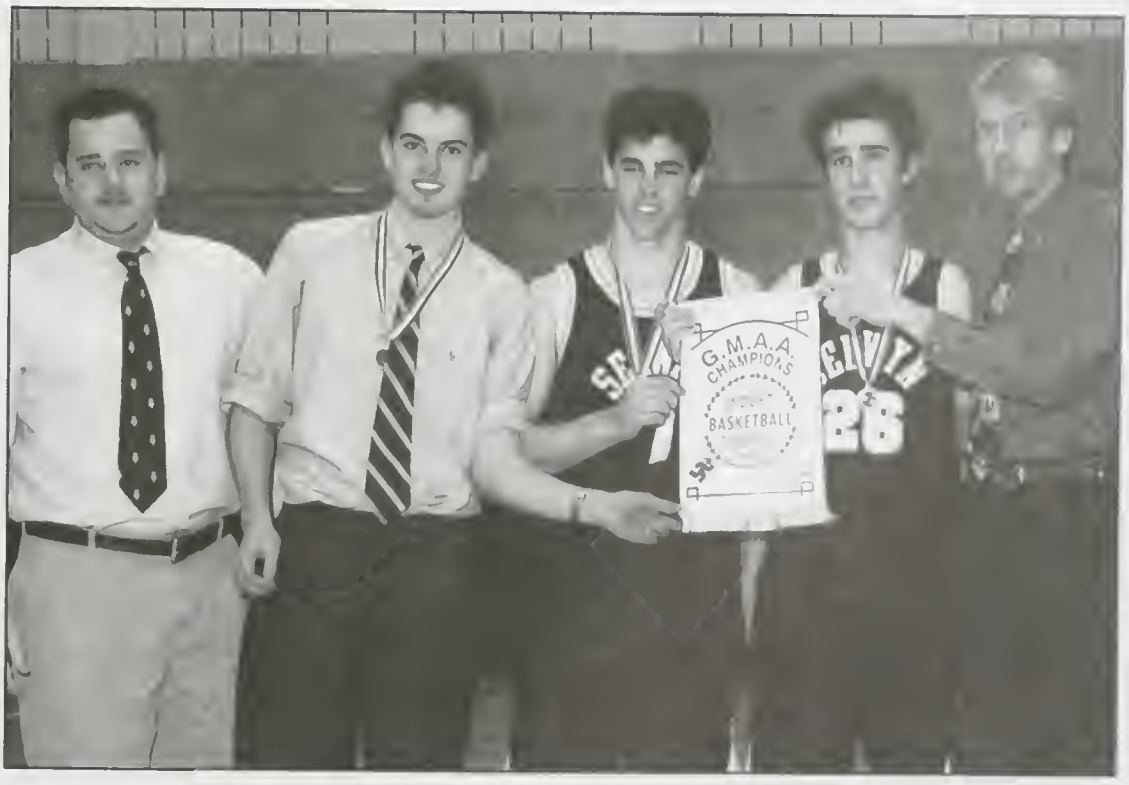
By Colin Boyle, Coach

The 2002-2003 Selwyn House Midget basketball team captured the GMAA Basketball Championship on March 13.

The Gryphons beat Loyola 46-33 in an exciting final held at LCC. The victory capped a 17-9 season that included winning the Country Day Invitational Tournament in Toronto in February.

In the championship game a tenacious pressure defence by Selwyn House was the main ingredient for success. Notable stand-outs on the team were: Jonathan Merritt, the game MVP; Beno Shell-Schnitzer and Phil Clark, who both made a number of steals; and Brendan Munzar and Will Molson, who were dominant under the basket.

The team went on to give a very good showing in the Quebec Provincial Championship, held in Rivière du Loup from April 11 to 13.




Top photo: Phil Clark brings the ball down the court in the final against Loyola.

Bottom photo: Captains Joe Stonehouse, Beno Shell-Schnitzer and Jonathan Merritt accept the banner.

# 2003 Halo Race results

By Steve Mitchell, SHS Athletic Director

The GMAA Halo Race was held on Wednesday, April 30th on Mount Royal. This event featured over four thousand elementary and seven hundred high school boys and girls from Grade 3 to Grade 11.

All of our Elementary School students were able to register with their teachers on a volunteer basis. The Physical Education teachers practised their grade levels in our gyms and eventually on the mountain during class time at least once during our three-week practice phase.

The event was great fun for Selwyn House's 154 Elementary and 76 Senior students.

Our objective is to offer interested runners at each grade level a fitness challenge to compliment our spring Physical Education programme.

I am proud to announce the Selwyn House students who achieved a top-ten finish.

Grades 3 and 4

**Race 2, one kilometre:** Lawrence Day 2nd; Patrick Mayer 4th.

**Race 4, one kilometre:** Anthony Salvo 7th; Erick Stein-Anderson 8th.

Grades 5 and 6

**Race 16 – two kilometres:** Mark Heron 1st; Josh Koenekoop 2nd; Kevin Paul 3rd; Jamie Koenekoop 4th; Chris Day 6th; Phillip Halliday 8th.

High School

**Bantam Boys, two kilometres:** Max Koenekoop 6th.

**Midget Boys, four kilometres:** Alex Browman 4th; John Merritt 5th; Ton Jin Quan 8th; Ian Matheson 9th.

**Juvenile Boys, five kilometres:** Thomas Rigby 2nd; Nicholas Tsoukas 5th.

Josh Koenekoop 5B (wearing medal), who finished 2nd, surrounded by exuberant classmates.

Mark Heron 6A and Kevin Paul 6A after finishing first and third in Race 16.

# *Grade 5-6 hockey team back from Toronto undefeated*

By Daniel Kost-Stephenson 6B

The Selwyn House Grade 5-6 hockey team remained undefeated after taking part in an invitational tournament at Upper Canada College in Toronto on January 10 and 11.

Everyone was very excited about going to Toronto. We knew it would be a unique trip because we would get to stay with billets from Crescent School. We were also very thrilled because, coming into this tournament, we were undefeated, having won our first thirteen games, including the Collège Stanislas Tournament.

When we finally arrived in Toronto after a six-hour train ride, we met our billets. For some of us, it meant meeting a friend we made last year on the same occasion.

The following day, we went to visit the Hockey Hall of Fame. That afternoon, we played our first game, against UCC, tying them 2-2. Their goaltender made some miracle saves to prevent us from making an easy win. Because UCC and Crescent had also tied each other 2-2, it was a must-win situation for us against our billets. We played another good game, winning by a score of 7-1. With that win, we came first in our division, and had a chance to win the tournament.

Marc Heron 6A prepares to face off against Crescent School.

We then took the advantage, beating Lower Canada College 7-1 also. Now, all we had to do was to beat Allenby School from Toronto, who were first in their division, to win the championship. We came on strong again with a 7-4 win.

We were all thrilled by the way we played our four games. Our coaches, Mr. Downey and Mr. Pruneau, were very proud of us and helped us play to our full potential, individually and as a team. Thanks to their aid, we are still undefeated.

Selwyn House Athletic Director Steve Mitchell, left, presents the Greater Montreal Athletic Association's Award of Merit in coaching to Mike Maurovich of Selwyn House.

The Selwyn House wrestlers recently finished fifth as a team at the 2003 GMAA Championships and had three medalists: Jordan Benjamin 10B and Shawn Errunza 10C (silver) and Christopher Yee Wong 9A (bronze). Back row from left: Alex Browman 10A, Jonas Briedis 8C, Shawn Errunza 10C, Ben Wilner 9A and Charles Ayas 10B. Front, coach Rob Moore, Tom Rigby 11A, Michael Lazar 10B, Jordan Benjamin 10B, Anshuman Saksena 10C and Christopher Yee Wong 9A.

# Selwyn House Athletic Banquet

By Steve Mitchell, SHS Athletic Director

| SPORT | AWARD | WINNERS |
|---|---|---|
| **Fall Awards 2002** | | |
| Gr. 7 Football | Most Promise | Matthew Kendrich |
| | M.I.P. | Adam Crystal |
| | M.V.P. | Zachary Martin |
| Btm. Football | M.I.P. | Philip Clark |
| | M.V.P. Offense | Casey Auerbach |
| | M.V.P. Defense | Dino Zammit |
| | M.V.P. | Philip Cutler |
| | Most Promise | Charles Fortin/ Eric Panzera |
| Senior Football | M.V.P. | Beno Shell-Schnitzer |
| | M.V.P. Offence | Matt Peris |
| | Best Linesman | Louis-Philippe Saleh |
| | M.V.P. Defence | Ben Meadow |
| Gr. 5-6 Soccer | M.V.P. | Gordon Paterson/ Kevin Paul |
| | Most Hustle | James Shannon/ Max Cronin |
| | Most Promise | Anthony Salvo/ Erik Stein-Andersen |
| Gr. 7 Soccer | M.I.P. | Matthew Vesnaver |
| | M.V.P. | Max Koenekoop |
| Bantam Soccer | Most Promise | Christopher Codina-Lucia |
| | M.I.P. | Michael Vescio |
| | M.V.P. | Stefano Bizzotto |
| Midget Soccer | M.V.P. | Sean Brophy |
| | M.V.P. Offence | Andrew April |
| | M.V.P. Offence | Justin Tan |
| Senior Soccer | M.V.P. | Thomas Rigby |
| | M.I.P. | Samuel Fish |
| X-C Running | M.I.P | Corey Zalcman |
| **Winter Awards 2002-03** | | |
| Wrestling | Most Promise | Shawn Errunza/ Jordan Benjamin |
| | M.I.P. | Thomas Rigby |
| | M.V.P. | Christopher Yee Wong |
| Gr. 5 & 6 | M.I.P. | Malcolm Pinnell |
| Basketball | M.I.P. | Marc-André Fernandes |
| | M.V.P. | Kevin Paul |
| Gr. 7 Basketball | Most Promise | Julian Beh-Pold |
| | M.I.P. | Dylan Brophy |
| Btm. Basketball | M.V.P. Defence | Dino Zammit |
| | M.I.P. | Brian Lin |
| | M.V.P. | Mark Sadaka |
| Midget Basketball | M.I.P. | William Molson |
| | M.V.P. | Jonathan Merritt/Philip Clark |
| | Most Promise | Beno Shell-Schnitzer |
| Sr. Basketball | M.I.P. | Jay Whyte Potter-Mäl |
| | M.I.P. | Luka Pavlovic |
| | M.V.P. | Miguel Burnier |
| Gr. 5-6 Hockey | M.V.P. | John Esposito/James Shannon |
| | M.I.P. | Robbie Fitzpatrick |
| | Most Promise | Nicolas Konow |
| Gr. 7 Hockey | Most Promise | Daniel D'Amico |
| | M.I.P. | Matthew Vesnaver |
| | M.V.P. Offence | Zachary Martin |
| Btm. Hockey | Most Promise | Christopher Codina-Lucia |
| | M.I.P. | Angelo Esposito/Oliver Porte |
| | M.V.P. Defence | Alex Morton |
| Senior Hockey | Most Promise | Casey Auerbach |
| | M.I.P. | Zachary Greenberg |
| | M.V.P. Defence | Jasdeep Minhas |
| | M.V.P. | Jayrd Zummer |
| X-C Skiing | Most Promise | Vincent-Charles Hodder |
| | M.V.P. | James Coulton |
| Curling | M.V.P. | Bryce Durafourt |
| | Most Promise | Charles-Edouard Bonaldo-Corning |
| **Spring Awards 2003** | | |
| Rowing | Most Promise | Max Graham |
| | M.I.P. | Larry Siad |
| Bantam Tennis | Most Promise | Bryan Wong |
| | M.V.P. | Stefan Papich |
| Midget Tennis | Most Promise | Philip Clark |
| | M.V.P. | Shawn Brophy |
| Juvenile Tennis | M.I.P. | Michael Grover |
| | M.V.P. | Richard Kwee |
| Track & Field | Most Effort | Vicar Rizvi |
| | M.V.P. | Tom Rigby |
| | Gr. 7 Most Promise | Max Koenekoop |
| Bantam Rugby | Most Promise | Frederic Vennat |
| | Best Back | Dino Zammit |
| | M.I.P. | Samer Balaghi |
| | M.V.P. | Phil Cutler |
| Midget Rugby | Best Forward | Justin Bahlis |
| | Best Back | Justin Moretti/Paul Tsoukas |
| Senior Rugby | Best Back | Thomas Spencer |
| | Best Forward | Dylan Jones/ Jonathan Munzar |

*Continued on page 39*

# Athletic Banquet

*Continued from page 38*

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Borner Award (Rugby M.V.P.) | | Matthew Peris |
| Coaches' Award | | Brendan Munzar |
| Baseball | Most Promise | Aaron Besner |
| | M.I.P. | Mike Bowey/Ben Meadow |
| | M.V.P. | Beno Shell-Schnitzer/ Casey Auerbach |
| X-C Running | M.I.P. | Corey Zalcman |
| Cassils Memorial Trophy (Gr. 7 Athlete of the Year ) | | Zachary Martin |
| P.E. Award | | Lee Rovinescu |
| McMaster Trophy (Senior Athlete of the Year) | | Thomas Rigby |

**Left: Thomas Rigby receives the McMaster Trophy from Headmaster Mitchell, Senior School Director Rob Wearing and SHS Board Member Duncan Campbell.**

Near right: Matthew Peris accepts the Borner Award from Rugby coach Peter Govan and Board Member Bryan Fitzpatrick. Far right: Zachary Martin receives the Cassils Memorial Trophy from Middle School Director Carol Manning.

At right, Sportsman's Guild inductees. Standing, from left: coach Jean Pruneau, Beno Shell-Schnitzer, coach Matt McCarney, Sam Fish, Nicholas Tsoukas, coach Dean Phillips, Thomas Spencer, Thomas Rigby, Dylan Jones, Luka Pavlovic, and Jonathan Munzar. Kneeling: Matthew Peris, Jasdeep Minhas, Dimitri Manousos, Jaryd Zummer, Casey Auerbach, Miguel Burnier, and Louis Saleh.

# *Bantam Basketball team wins at BCS*

By Matthew McCarney, coach

This year's Grade 8 Bantam Basketball team rolled into Lennoxville with winning the Bishop's College School tournament championship on their minds. St. George's School of Montreal had held a seven-year stranglehold on the tournament championship, and the Gryphons were looking to break that grip.

Friday afternoon saw the Gryphons beat the Centennial Academy Cougars by twenty-three points, and follow it up with a nineteen-point drubbing of the Alexander Galt Pipers.

This set up the championship game against the St. George's Blue Devils on Saturday afternoon. The Gryphons and Blue Devils had met on two previous occasions, with Selwyn House winning both games. The game was back and forth, with no team getting more than a four-point lead until the Gryphon defence, anchored by Dino Zammit, came up with three crucial steals in the final two minutes.

Dino's quick hands allowed Selwyn to win by five points, and got him named to the all-tournament team.

The Bantam boys hold the championship banner at BCS.

Team captain Mark Sadaka averaged twenty-three points a game in the tournament and was chosen the tournament M.V.P.

Winning the B.C.S. championship capped a tremendous tournament run for the Gryphons. They had already won the consolation championship at the L.C.C. tournament and the championship at the West Island College tournament as well. The boys showed a tremendous amount of composure and heart in all their tournament games and Selwyn House has the banners and medals to show for it.

# *Tennis team serves up solid season*

The Selwyn House Tennis Team served up a solid season this year. Their first challenge was to choose the four best players of any age to compete in the annual SHS Tournament. The team of Rich Kwee, Sean Brophy, Phil Clark, and Bryan Wong made us proud by winning the tournament. Soon after that came the annual GMAA Competition; all eighteen boys (three teams of six) played well and tried their best, win or lose. The three teams together tied with LCC for overall most wins, and the SHS Open team (Richard Kwee, Mike Grover, Miguel Burnier, Matt Firestone, Jaryd Zummer, and Bryce Durafourt) were silver medalists. Individually, to no one's surprise, Rich Kwee, who also helped coach some of the players during practices, won a gold medal in Open, while Stefan Papich won a silver in Bantam. Coaches Andy Lumsden and Kathi Biggs felt the boys defined the essence of "the gentleman's game."

# *Jazz Bands play for medals, charity*

By James McMillan, Director of Music

The Selwyn House Jazz Bands had a very productive year. The Senior Jazz Band and Jazz Storm, the combination of the ECS Jazz Choir and the SHS Senior Jazz Band, performed at a breakfast fundraiser for the Just for Kids Foundation on May 7 at the Omni Hotel. That same evening, they performed along with the Grade 7 and 8 Jazz Bands at a Jazz Cabaret at the school. Thanks to the tremendous efforts of our parent volunteers under the direction of Stephanie Davis (SHS) and Judy Martin (ECS), there were tables, candles and decorations to make a wonderful cabaret style atmosphere. Voluntary donations were made at the door and we were able to present a cheque for almost $700 to the foundation.

The Senior Jazz Band, Jazz Storm and the Grade 8 Jazz Band competed at the Quebec JazzFest held in March in St. Hubert. This competition ranks each ensemble according to national standards, and awards medals to those ensembles that rank in the top three categories. The Senior Jazz Band and Jazz Storm both received Bronze Medals, and the Grade 8 Jazz Band received a Silver Medal. Congratulations to all the performers in these ensembles.

Clockwise from upper left: Arne Peterson 10C, assisted by Benjamin Fombonne 11C, Christopher Caldareri 9B, Sammy Hammouda 9A, Vicar Rizvi 9A, Corey Zalcman 11C and Brian Lin 8A

# *'Brain Lady' makes mental sparks fly*

By Richard Wills, Publications Editor

Brains of all ages must have been sprouting new branches after the April 8 visit by Dr. Kathie Nunley, an educator and lecturer who has become known in the Selwyn House community as "the brain lady." Dr. Nunley's informative and entertaining lectures on the workings of the human brain have proven so popular with Selwyn House parents that she was brought back to the School for a third visit.

During the day, Dr. Nunley spoke to students from Trafalgar, Villa Maria, The Study, Lower Canada College and Selwyn House. In the evening, she kept approximately five hundred parents fascinated for two hours.

Dr. Nunley speaking to Senior School students.

As a parent and a high-school teacher, Dr. Nunley applies the latest discoveries about brain function, acquired through recent innovations in MRI imaging techniques, to practical family and classroom situations.

Dr. Nunley says that humans prefer to use their lower brain (the spinal cord and limbic system) to perform rote tasks, employing the higher prefrontal cortex only when the situation demands one's full attention. The limbic system, sometimes called "the reptilian brain," can deal with only three concerns: eating, fighting or fleeing, and mating. Dr. Nunley told a group of SHS Senior boys that the reptilian brain is dominant during adolescence, especially among males. At around age twenty-two, the prefrontal cortex kicks in to mitigate this dominance with reasoned, reflective thought.

Dr. Nunley may have further shocked her youthful audience by telling them, "By age twelve you have thrown away eighty per cent of your brain cells." This, she reassured them, is the normal casting off of unused cells, and does not impede brain development. On the contrary, "weeding out" the unused cells makes space for the remaining cells to grow more branches, or dendrites, that connect to other cells for the exchange of electrical energy that makes up brain function.

The actual construction of new brain connections takes place during sleep, Dr. Nunley explained. A student must get enough sleep—regular sleep—in order to process the information he learns during the day. "If you haven't wired this information in tonight, it's lost to you," she told the SHS seniors.

Neurotransmitters are chemicals that facilitate communication between brain cells. Dr. Nunley discussed various recreational drugs, explaining that people use these substances to mimic pleasure-inducing neurotransmitters that occur naturally in the brain.

Because the teenage brain has not finished growing its protective fatty layer, it is much more susceptible to damage from alcohol, she said. "Under age twenty-two, the worst thing you can do to your brain is use alcohol," she warned. "It can cause permanent damage to your thinking and reasoning skills."

Dr. Nunley's evening lecture took on a more adult tone, dealing with how the brain changes throughout one's lifetime. The 200 billion brain cells we have at birth are really only a fraction of the 525 billion cells we had as a 26-week-old fetus. "You were born with half your brain already gone, and it's been going downhill ever since," she commiserated.

But, as she reiterated, this cell loss is normal as the brain matures. On the other hand, functional deterioration of the brain begins in one's mid-thirties, she told her audience. Therefore, learning is good exercise for the mature brain. "He with the most [dendrite] branches withstands Alzheimer's and dementia better."

Reiterating the point made earlier to students, she reminded parents of the "huge sleep deprivation problem" children face today, which impedes their learning ability.

If they want to produce good students, Dr. Nunley advised parents of pre-schoolers to: raise their children in an environment rich in sensory stimulation; communicate with them in a rich, adult vocabulary; and show them that their parents enjoy reading.

She wrapped up her talk by pointing out that living in Quebec gives one a learning advantage. "People who are bilingual are much better problem-solvers," she said.

More information on how healthy brain function facilitates learning can be found on Dr. Nunley's Web site, www.brains.org.

# *Fleiszer brings Grey Cup to SHS*

By Richard Wills, Publications Editor

On January 9, Selwyn House Old Boy Tim Fleiszer '92, a defensive tackle with the Grey Cup-winning Montreal Alouettes, brought his team's trophy to Selwyn House so that students could get a first-hand look at the coveted cup.

Mr. Fleiszer spoke to separate assemblies of Elementary, Middle and Senior School boys. The students peppered him with questions, later pressing forward for autographs and a chance to touch the cup that has been the most sought-after prize in Canadian football since 1908, the same year Selwyn House was founded.

The Middle School boys clamour to touch the Grey Cup.

"You can do anything if you try hard enough," Mr. Fleiszer told the Middle School boys. "Always follow your dreams and never give up," he said. He stressed that schooling is essential for success, no matter what profession one goes into.

The 2002 football season was a successful one for Mr. Fleiszer. The Alouettes defeated the Edmonton Eskimos 25-16 on November 24, bringing the Canadian Football League championship title to Montreal for the first time in a quarter-century.

"I have seen the cup on TV before, but it was really cool to touch it," said Sam Gilbert 7C. "I thought Mr. Fleiszer was really inspiring. I'm not too big, but I would like to play in the NHL. Mr. Fleiszer told me not to give up on my dreams."

"It was something special for the cup to be at my school," said Nathaniel Blumer 7C. "When I told my parents, they were really excited. I was impressed that Mr. Fleiszer went to Harvard and then went into sports rather than becoming a doctor or something. He pointed out that playing sports requires some thinking, or you might get hit by a 250-pound player."

Thomas Leblanc KB was one of the Kindergarten students who received an autograph from Mr. Fleiszer during his visit to Selwyn House. "It was a special day," says Thomas.

Joshua Daoust KA concurred. "It was one of the funnest things in the School that I ever did," he said.

Becket Osterland KB accepts an autograph from Tim Fleiszer, while (from left) Joshua Daoust KA, Thomas Leblanc KB and Geoffrey Parsons 1B wait their turn.

# *Selwyn House hosts New Ventures Fair*

By Richard Wills, Publications Editor

Selwyn House School hosted the first New Ventures Fair on Tuesday, April 29. The fair was designed to showcase students' plans for new businesses and social services. Students from Selwyn House, Miss Edgar's and Miss Cramp's School (ECS) and Lower Canada College (LCC) participated in this, the event's inaugural year.

The students taking part were organized into two groups, one for Grade 6 and the other for Grade 11.

The Selwyn House faculty organizers said they hope the event will become a regular fixture in the Montreal school community, and serve as an inspiration for many budding entrepreneurs.

The students' projects were on public display at the School, with the best ones being selected by a panel of guest judges from the local business community.

Thomas Rigby 11A goes over the details of his business plan with one of the judges.

Prize-winning projects from Selwyn House were:

**Non-Profit Idea:**
Evren Boisjoli, Robert Carle and Thomas Nicols; Arun Khanna

**Teamwork:**
Tyler Schlemm, Jesse Kaufman and Bryan Gorski

**Marketing Plan:**
Jared Tauben

**Originality of Project:**
Stephen Mashaal and Marc-André Fernandes

**Originality of Project:**
Emanuel Simon

**Viability of Project:**
Antoine Leuzy

**Business Plan:**
Stephen Mashaal and Marc-André Fernandes

**Environmental Awareness:**
Sasha Papich, Michael Bibeau and Noah Barer.

**Environmental Awareness:**
Mohsin Aziz

**Best Presentation:**
Louis Gervais, Gordon Paterson and Greg Rossy.

From left: Robert Carle 6A, Thomas Nicols 6B and Evren Boisjoli 6A explain their project to a judge.

From left: Tyler Schlemm 6A, Jesse Kaufman 6B, and Bryan Gorski 6A listen to a critique of their project.

# *Fourteen inducted into Cum Laude Society*

By Richard Wills, Publications Editor

Six members of the 2001 graduating class, five Grade 11 students, and one teacher were inducted into the Cum Laude Society at the morning assembly for Founder's Day on November 27.

The Grade 11 students were: Adam Cieply, Matthew Litvack, Scott McMurray, Michael Woloszyk and Alex Wybo.

At the same time, six members of the 2001 graduating class were also inducted. They were: Francesco Di Muro, Arnold Engel, Tim Rossy, Saro Setrakian, Adam Sternthal, and Michael Sterle-Contala.

Each year, one or more staff members are also inducted into the Society, in recognition of their outstanding contribution to the school's academic program. This year's faculty inductee was science teacher Michael Downey.

Cum Laude inductees, from left: Michael Downey, Adam Cieply, Francesco Di Muro, Scott McMurray, Tim Rossy, Alex Wybo, Adam Sternthal, Michael Woloszyk, Michael Sterle-Contala, and Matthew Litvack. Absent: Arnold Engel and Saro Setrakian

# *Teachers develop new way of evaluating student progress*

By Kathy Funamoto, Assistant Elementary School Director

This year at Selwyn House, a team of five Elementary School teachers (Isabelle Goyer, Irene Lunt, Claudine Martel, Evi Pachis and I) are developing a new process of evaluation by focusing on performance and portfolio assessment.

The current educational reform policy states that evaluation must be a central component of the curriculum. Learning must work hand in hand with evaluation or assessment practices. Kay Burke (1999) and Robin Fogerty (1998) advocate a balanced approach to assessment with a focus on three components:

**Traditional assessment**

Assessments such as spelling tests, objective quizzes, and homework assignments are conventional assessment practices. There is a need to explore a more varied approach to assessment.

**Performance assessment**

Performance tasks such as oral presentations, speeches, poster displays, research projects or journal entries reflect the classroom reality. Teachers will emphasize tasks that permit choice or require research or critical thinking skills, and where learning outcomes (rubrics) are pre-determined with clear standards and criteria for excellence.

**Portfolio assessment**

Some of the performance tasks will then be collected in a portfolio. The organization of this portfolio, be it paper or electronic, will be based on a set of learning goals. The learner must reflect on the achievement of these goals, and the portfolio should demonstrate the student's development, improvement and growth over time. Because self-evaluation is an important component of assessment, the teacher must meet with each student individually to complete the process. We will help the students recognize when and how to use their knowledge by conferencing with them, monitoring their progress and setting individual goals. The teacher will assist and discuss each student's self-evaluation.

At the end of the year, the teachers working on this development project will have produced an assessment resource that will be shared with other teachers to continue our objectives to have innovative evaluation practices complement the valuable traditional practices we have relied on for many years.

# *Parent Volunteer Committee Reports*

Dr. Paul Rossy moderates a group discussion at the Parent Support Committee's book club.

### Class Parents
Sheri Diemer,
Nanci Moretti-Montpetit,
Coordinators

This year the Class Parents have kept very busy helping out in a variety of ways. Throughout the year they have been planning class get-togethers. Whether it's a dinner at a nice restaurant or a chance to enjoy a cup of coffee at someone's home, it's been a great way for parents to catch up and to keep in touch.

Class Parents also made sure that the school was looking festive during the holidays in December. Colourful holiday decorations abounded at the main entrance to the school as well as the dining room. Many of the classrooms celebrated the season in a similar way.

The Class Parents also aided in organizing Christmas baskets that were distributed to needy families in the Montreal area. As well, back at school, Class Parents assisted with the hepatitis shots administered to the Grade 4 and 5 classes.

Class Parents really jumped in to help out with Teacher and Staff Appreciation Week. Not only did so many parents in the school prepare and deliver an assortment of delicious baked goods, salads, entrées and desserts for the teachers and staff, but many Class Parents volunteered their time to set up, serve the various treats, and help clean up afterwards. With all of the many willing volunteers, the event was assured of being a success.

Class Parents are already helping out with plans for the next school year. This spring the Elementary School began organizing class baskets that will be auctioned off in next year's Silent Auction, as part of the Celebration 2003 event. Each basket will be representative of that grade, and will have a distinctive character.

In addition, many Class Parents have volunteered to be "Class Buddies" to new families who will be entering the school in the fall. They will contact these new families and help to ease the transition into the school.

Many thanks to all the Class Parents who have given so much of their time and have helped to make all of these endeavours a success!

### Community Service
Nora Burnier,
Beverly Rudolph-Zbarsky,
Coordinators

The Community Service Committee's goal during the 2002-2003 school year was to provide whatever help was needed to support Selwyn House boys in becoming involved in volunteer activities within their community. There are lots of organizations out there that need their help! To help the boys become aware of the opportunities available to them, we continued to highlight many community volunteer needs. After having initiated a Volunteer Fair in the 2001-2002 school year, we participated, with ECS, in a similar event in the fall that gave the students a chance to meet representatives from volunteer organizations in person and discover where their interests lie.

Our committee members supported the school's Big Brother program by providing rides to events including curling and the bingo held at the Montreal Association for the Blind. We also worked on clothes drives and purchasing items to be given out at the two luncheons for homeless people at Christ Church Cathedral.

We're glad to see that community service is now an integral part of the Selwyn House programme. Over the past year, boys in Grades 9 and 10 were required to do ten hours of community service, and this will be extended to those in Grade 11 next year.

### Parent Support
Judi Fish and Andrea McConnell,
Coordinators

Based on the great success we had last year, we again invited Minna Shulman, the school counsellor, to kick off our lecture series at the end of September. This year she talked about "What is a Parent to Do?" covering such important topics as sibling rivalry, bedtimes, homework, curfews and risky business (drugs, video games, computers, and the buying and selling of cards). The Headmaster and the three School Directors were also on hand to answer questions and add their comments.

*Continued on page 47*

# *Parent Volunteer Committee Reports*

*Continued from page 46*

On April 8, 2003 Selwyn House and other member schools of the Quebec Association of Independent Schools hosted a lecture by Dr. Kathie Nunley for parents and for students in Grades 7-8 from various schools, and our sons in Grades 9-11. A noted speaker in the United States, Dr. Nunley is the author of several books and articles on teaching and parenting the adolescent. Dr. Nunley spoke about "The Adolescent Brain and How it Works." She discussed how sleep deprivation and poor nutrition affect learning and school performance as well as how the teenage brain is unique. The six-hundred students who attended a similar lecture during the day were so impressed that they insisted their parents go to the evening lecture.

Helping hands at the Teacher Appreciation Week lunch, from left Sheri Diemer, Leigh Guerriero, Nanci Moretti-Montpetit and Nancy Fitzpatrick.

Dr. Paul Rossy, who facilitates the book clubs, had suggested *Six Thinking Hats* by Edward de Bono for parents' summer reading. In March he did a PowerPoint presentation for parents on de Bono's work. There was a question-and-answer period, as well as a hands-on attempt by the parents to find solutions to typical situations using de Bono thinking. It was a huge success and was well attended.

This year, Elementary School Director Gérald Fallon, School Counsellor Minna Shulman and Grade 1 teacher Tim Peters introduced the "Steps for Respect" programme to Selwyn House. This programme teaches children about respect, empathy and tolerance for diversity, with the goal of preventing bullying. In order to make the parent body aware of this program and how we can continue it at home with our sons, the Parent Support Committee helped to organize the presentation of the Second-Step Programme at the spring breakfast meetings for Kindergarten to Grade 5.

Two of our committee members, Anna Vineberg and Nancy Bloomfield, organized a Father-and-Son basketball game and pizza supper for Grades 6 and 7. The attendance was great and the "boys" had a super time.

**Staff support/Special Events**
**Stephanie Davis, coordinator**

On Wednesday May 7th, 2003 in the Lucas Gym, over one hundred twenty people enjoyed an evening of music performed by the Selwyn House jazz bands. The cabaret-style evening was a showcase for the School's talented musicians and also a fundraiser for the Just for Kids Foundation. Over $600 was raised due to the generosity of all in attendance.

Parents are always happy to get a few bargains at the Gryphon Sales, which are held occasionally throughout the school year. Volunteers included: Annemarie Elvidge, Helen Matheson and Maria Vesnaver

The Grade 7 Jazz Band, Grade 8 Jazz Band and the Senior Jazz Band all performed to much applause. Jazz Storm (the Selwyn House Jazz Band and the ECS singers) started off the show and performed at various points throughout the evening. The ECS choir also beautifully performed a medley of songs during the evening.

We thank all who helped to make the evening a success, especially Mr. McMillan, the tireless leader of all bands performing that night.

# *Tuition Raffle raises $16,643*

By Sharon Cozens, Director of Alumni and Parent Relations

Congratulations to the winners of the School's first Tuition Raffle organized by the Parent Volunteer Association. Our grand prize winner is the the family of Florian Weibel, who will be new to Grade 7 this coming September. The Weibels are extremely pleased to have won next year's tuition. Our second prize winner is the Vincelli-Gregory family, who will have $500 to spend at the Argyle Shop on a new uniform for Erik. The Ignacz family, our third prize winners, will have $175 to spend towards a gym uniform for Alexander, also from the Argyle Shop.

Many thanks to Karma Hallward and Nancy Fitzpatrick, Tuition Raffle Committee Chairs, and everyone who participated either by purchasing a ticket or by selling tickets over the phone. With 614 tickets sold at $50 each, parents had excellent odds to win.

Proceeds this year will benefit the Lucas Building renovations (the Lucas Campaign). We are sure that this year's winners will be first in line to buy a ticket next year.

Dina Vincelli, Nancy Fitzpatrick, Erik Vincelli-Gregory 3A and Karma Hallward.

Catherine Luu, Alexander Ignacz 3B, Nancy Fitzpatrick and Karma Hallward.

*Celebrate the inauguration of the Speirs Building on September 19, 2003.*
*There's something for everyone!*

SELWYN HOUSE VERITAS
Celebration 2003
MAKING ROOM FOR THE FUTURE

*6:00 pm*
*School Tours, Balloon Raffle, Cocktails, Silent Auction*
*Open to all!*

*8:30 pm*
*Live Auction, Entertainment, Desserts, Open Bar*
*(limited seating available $50 per person)*
*RSVP using the reply card mailed to your home*

# *Virginia Ferguson named Librarian of the Year*

By Richard Wills, Publications Editor

Virginia Ferguson, Head Librarian at Selwyn House School, received the 2002 Anne Galler Award for Outstanding Library Service from the Quebec Library Association. The presentation took place at the Black Watch Armoury on December 11, 2002.

"The Anne Galler Award is more than special for me because it was Anne who was responsible for getting me my summer job at Selwyn House between the first and second years of my Masters studies at McGill," Mrs. Ferguson explains. "It was left to me to create the library we now know out of a tiny room on the second floor of the Lucas Building. Anne Galler trained me to put my first-year graduate-student knowledge to work in creating what we would call the entire data base for a library, from cataloguing and classification to typing cards, filing cards, ordering furniture and so on. From time to time after we were up and running, Anne would come by to comment on the state of our SHS baby library.

Virginia Ferguson with the Anne Galler Award.

"In a few years, Anne came back to check on us once more and she said, 'I think you probably have the finest library on the island!' This was high praise, so the award is especially meaningful to me."

Today, the Geoffrey Wanstall Memorial Library contains over 38,000 print and non-print items, fifteen per cent of which are in French. The library also subscribes to several on-line Internet services, such as Ebsco (full-text magazine articles) SIRS (social issues research service with 800 worldwide journals) Eureka/l'Actualité (full-text French newspapers), Canada Newsdisk On-Line, Gale Literary Databases on-line, Britannica On-Line. Students have access to 120 interactive CD-ROMs, to be used on eight Pentium 3 workstations, four OPACs and an integrated on-line library management system. Junior and Senior boys receive story hours and library services in our two special story rooms, main reference area, and silent study area and conference rooms.

# *Parent Volunteers honoured*

By Christine Gervais, Parent Volunteer Association Coordinator

On Friday, June 6, Parent Volunteers were honoured and thanked for their generous support of the School with a delicious breakfast in the dining room. The morning started off with freshly brewed coffee generously donated by A. L. Van Houtte, wonderful makeup samples provided by Estée Lauder and fantastic door prizes such as a leather bag and umbrellas from Les Ailes de la Mode. The breakfast provided the opportunity for the School to thank departing coordinators and welcome incoming ones.

In photo, standing, from left: Sheila Jablonski, Styvia Kyres, Belaine Lacey-Wiseman, Susan Einhorn, Stephanie Davis, Nora Burnier, Alison Matheson, Nancy Fitzpatrick. Front row: Sheri Diemer, Helen Matheson, Nanci Moretti-Montpetit, Judi Fish and Karma Hallward.

# *Swan song...so to speak*

By Virginia Ferguson, retiring Head Librarian

Hello once again from the Lucas Building version of the SHS Library and from the desk of your retiring Head Librarian, Virginia Ferguson. As we face the chaos of packing up and moving to the new library, we also tend to the business of ordering interesting new books for delivery in the fall. In addition to receiving tips from readers, we read a great many reviews in library journals, publishing journals, education journals and special book review sections of Canadian newspapers and literary magazines.

Virginia Ferguson doing what she loves best, telling stories to Elementary School boys.

One of the newest and best of these sources is *MRB*, or *Montreal Review of Books,* a free copy of which arrived as an insert in the *Globe and Mail*. Unlike *Lurelu*, an all-French primary-level reviewing journal of long-standing good reputation, this "newsprint" journal is aimed at secondary level and young adult readers as well as professionals, and is primarily concerned with the small but vital English-language community of Montreal.

In this issue are advertisements for a series of free discussions at the Atwater Library led by Montreal author Mary Soderstrom, whose book *Re-inventing Eden* will be the focus of one of McGill University's alumni courses this fall. As well, we are reminded of a free reading from *That Sleep of Death* by author Richard King, who also happens to be, along with Jon Penney, a co-founder of our favourite local bookstore, Paragraphe Books.

Here, one finds long, interesting reviews of current writing, from poetry to fiction to a new twist on travel by Taras Grescoe, the author of the very funny book *Sacré Blues*. *Sacré Blues* has been a popular number with the SHS senior boys, who have greatly enjoyed Grescoe's "unsentimental journey through Quebec" from poutine to the Raelians. Now, Grescoe has turned his keen eye upon himself as tourist/traveler in *The End of Elsewhere, Travels Among the Tourists,* published by Macfarlane, Walter and Ross, and available at the Double Hook Bookstore on Greene Avenue in Westmount. Grescoe's reviewer, Ian McGillis, quotes Gresco as talking a lot in the book about "travel bubbles," the communities that travelers form together, often to the exclusion of the place they come to visit. Grescoe feels that in order to travel well, it is necessary to remain truly open to the people of each place and at all levels, not just the poor, but also the middle class. A good tourist wishes to see a full picture of the place visited. That said, I shall purchase this recommended book for myself and urge my friends to read it as well.

Then, full of resolve to be a good tourist/traveler, I invite you all to come find me in California's Yosemite National Park, where May once again finds Mrs. Ferguson living in a tent and directing the park volunteers in their various duties. Twenty thousand other tourists a day during high season will share with you the splendour of Yosemite. But remain open to all and you will be guaranteed to fall in love with this place and become a devotee, not just a casual tourist.

Leave your travel bubble at home this summer and enjoy every moment.

Headmaster Mitchell and volunteer Donna Litvack were among a library full of well wishers for the retirement party for Virginia Ferguson on April 24.

SELWYN HOUSE SCHOOL PROMOTES A HEALTHY ATTITUDE TOWARD PARTICIPATION, TEAMWORK AND SPORTSMANSHIP. THESE ARE ENDURING VALUES THAT WILL BENEFIT THE STUDENT FOR THE REST OF HIS LIFE.

# OPEN HOUSE

## ALL GRADES

Tuesday, October 7
9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon
5:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

### KINDERGARTEN DAY

Friday, October 17
Tours 9:00 to 11:00 a.m.
**Presentation at 11:00 a.m.**

### MIDDLE SCHOOL FAIR

Tuesday, October 7
5:30 to 8:00 p.m.
**Information night for Grade 7**

ENTRANCE EXAMS GRADES 7 TO 11: SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 1 OR 8

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE AND SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE

SELWYN HOUSE

VERITAS

**Admission Office (514) 931-2775 — admission@selwyn.ca**

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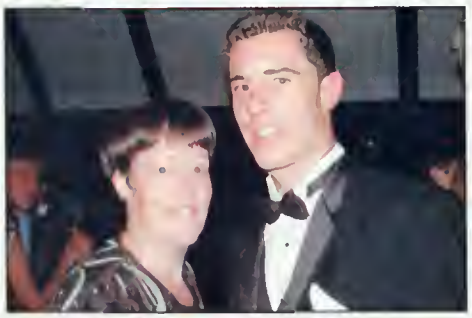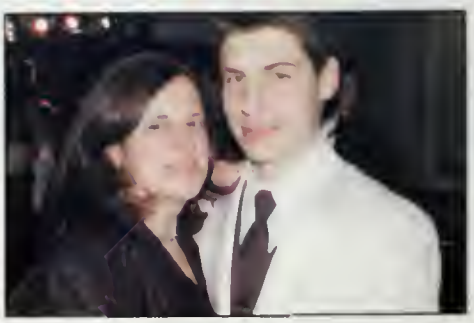
# Scenes from Grad Night 2003